

# THE Anti-Slavery Reporter.

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# The Anti-Slavery Reporter.

*[The Editor, whilst grateful to all correspondents who may be kind enough to furnish him with information, desires to state that he is not responsible for the views stated by them, nor for quotations which may be inserted from other journals. The object of the REPORTER is to spread information, and articles are necessarily quoted which may contain views or statements for which their authors can alone be held responsible.]*

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## ANNUAL SUMMARY. 1892.

THE year which has just passed has been one of constant activity on the part of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY. In almost every branch of its varied work some demand for renewed vigilance has arisen, some evil has been brought to light; whilst important suggestions have been laid before the Government with a view to bringing about the cessation of Slavery and the Slave-trade in various parts of Africa and elsewhere.

According to our usual custom we have broken up this Summary under various headings for convenience of reference.

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### The General Act of the Brussels Conference.

IN our summary for last year we reported that the Brussels Act had been ratified in whole by all the signatory Powers with the exception of France. We understand, on very high authority, that the opposition of France was confined to the maritime provisions of the Act, but that she is equally bound with the other Powers to carry out the provisions of the Act with respect to the Slave-trade on land. We regret that France has not seen her way to accede to propositions which would have prevented, so far as any regulations could do so, the abuse of her flag in the Indian Ocean by Arab Slavers; and this the more as latest advices from Madagascar point to an active trade in Slaves in Arab vessels flying the French flag.

We are glad to report that the International Bureau at Zanzibar for the suppression of the Slave-trade, as decreed by the General Act of Brussels, is now in full operation under the presidency of the British Consul-General.

The fact that the French Consul is vice-president of the Bureau should tend to check the abuse of the flag of France being employed in covering the Slave-trade.



### New Slave-Trade Treaty with Spain.

IN pursuance of the terms of the Brussels Act, the British Government entered into a Treaty with the KING OF SPAIN, in July, 1890, whereby former Treaties were abrogated, and a Treaty embodying the Maritime Provisions of the Brussels Act has taken their place.

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### Zanzibar.

OUR readers will remember that on August 1st, 1890, a Decree was issued by the Sultan which contained, amongst other provisions, a clause permitting every Slave to purchase his freedom at a just and reasonable tariff. Two or three weeks later, owing to the dangerous excitement which had sprung up among the Arab population in consequence of the issue of the Decree, the Sultan issued another Decree cancelling the clause referred to.

The Committee of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY therefore memorialized the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, asking whether the Government were taking any steps to secure the faithful carrying out of the Decree of August 1st, 1890.

In reply, the MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, whilst fully sympathising with the anxiety of the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY with respect to the Slave-trade and Slavery in Zanzibar, thought that it might be assumed that as the Sultan was a party to the Brussels Act, and as Zanzibar would be the seat of the International Bureau to be constituted under that Act, every reasonable security was now given for the gradual extinction of Slavery. The Committee, however, bearing in mind the fact that most of the Slaves in Zanzibar had been imported in violation of the Sultan's treaty engagements with England, and knowing also that the International Bureau at Zanzibar was merely for the discussion of maritime questions, further memorialized the Foreign Minister, strongly urging the abolition of the *legal status* of Slavery in Zanzibar, a measure which they considered ought to be much more easy of attainment now that the Sultan's dominions were under British protection.

LORD SALISBURY in acknowledging the Memorial, pointed with confidence to the whole action of Her Majesty's Government as shewing their determination to suppress the Slave-trade and its attendant evils, and to effect the extinction of Slavery at the earliest moment compatible with a due regard for international rights, and for the possibilities of doing so without endangering the peace of the countries in which it still exists.

An important Decree of the Sultan, dated September 11th, 1891, strictly forbidding the recruitment or enlistment of soldiers, coolies, and



*Summary (continued).*

porters for service beyond his dominions, was brought to the notice of the Society by the courtesy of LORD SALISBURY. This Decree, we trust, will prove effective in checking, if not abolishing, a system which tends to foster the trade in Slaves.

In accordance with the terms of the General Act of the Brussels Conference, the Sultan, on the 7th May, 1892, decreed that all dhows flying the Zanzibar flag must be registered, numbered on the sail and stern, and receive the papers as laid down in the Act. Noncompliance with these regulations made the owner of any dhow liable to a penalty as well as the confiscation of the dhow.

In spite of the various laws and decrees, as well as the energetic administration of the Island of Zanzibar by Englishmen, several cases of the Slave-trade from the Zanzibar Coast have been recently discovered ; in some instances Slaves being rescued by Her Majesty's cruisers. The Sultan therefore issued a Decree, on the 7th September, prohibiting the sailing of dhows except from the harbour of Zanzibar, and then only after examination by the authorities.

The capture of a steamer, the property of the Zanzibar authorities, with Slaves on board, was a startling surprise to many who are interested in the well-being of Zanzibar, and the subsequent liberation of the vessel, although its crew were punished, has given rise to much unfavourable comment, both in the navy and elsewhere.

We notice that the ivory trade to Zanzibar, which has so close a connection with the Slave-trade, has been up to the average, with the exception of the last three months of the year, owing to troubles in the coast territories on the mainland. We note also that the quantity of cloves on the markets (the cultivation of which is so destructive to the life of the Slave) has considerably decreased with respect to Pemba, although it has increased with respect to Zanzibar. The total quantity produced in both islands, however, is lower by some thirty-five thousand francs than it was in 1891. The Arab clove growers are now beginning to cry out that the prohibition of the Slave-trade has materially affected the supply of labour necessary for the cultivation of the clove trees ; but when we consider that it has been computed that the average life of a Slave in the Island of Pemba is only seven years, we cannot but think that if the *legal status* of Slavery were to be abolished in the two islands, and a fair wage offered, not only would there be no difficulty in obtaining labour, but that both the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba would reap the benefits of an increased production.

We sincerely trust that the British Government will realise the great responsibility which rests upon it, now that the territories of the Sultan are under its protection, and prevail upon him to decree an immediate

abolition of the *legal status* of Slavery, a measure which was so strongly recommended by Sir JOHN KIRK when he occupied the position of Her Majesty's Representative at Zanzibar.

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### Nyassaland.

WE regret that at the end of the year 1891 and during the early part of 1892 that there was considerable trouble in Nyassaland, owing to the fact that raiding of Slaves had been recommenced by some of the native chiefs. We are sorry to say that in the encounters which ensued some of the most energetic officers connected with the British Administration lost their lives.

From a letter which recently appeared in the *Natal Mercury* from the pen of a missionary at Livingstonia, and from other authentic sources, we learn that the Slave-trade has been more active in Nyassaland during 1892 than it has been for years past. The statement that Slaves are shipped in a dhow flying the British flag is, to say the least, startling. At Deep Bay, north of Livingstonia, it is reported that there are two dhows engaged regularly in ferrying Slaves over Lake Nyassa.

These are matters which require the earnest attention of the British Government, with the view of preventing the continuance of such abuses in territories under the direct protection of Great Britain.

We are glad, however, to learn that Government steamers for the Lake Nyassa are now on their way, and we trust that beneficial results will accrue from this policy—a policy which has long been advocated by the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

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### West Africa.

SIERRA LEONE.—It is satisfactory to be able to report that the Government has at last taken steps to prevent the overland traffic in Slaves within the sphere of British influence in West Africa. The practice of this trade in poor unfortunate human beings who have been caught in some of the many raids, which are misnamed wars, has prevailed for so long a time, and has increased to such an extent that the action taken by the Government comes by no means too soon. The system pursued has generally been either for parties of Bunduca traders to come from the French possessions on the Gambia with cash, with which to purchase goods, which they take to the Districts outside of the peninsula, buy Slaves, and return home with them overland; or for some small parties of Soosoos and Mandingoes—generally from the French sphere of influence—to settle in native towns having the reputation of being good

marts, with a small supply of merchandise, which they give out on credit, payment being made afterwards in Slaves, brought either from the scene of some disturbance or the unfortunate victims captured for debt, actual crime, or the one hundred and one little palavers which are always cropping up in the dominions of uncivilized potentates. Some idea may be formed of the amount of profit which has been derived by those engaged in this inhuman traffic when it is known that the average price of an adult ranges from three to five pounds in merchandise, the cash value of which may be estimated at from thirty to forty shillings, and that these are re-sold within the sphere of French influence at eight to ten pounds each, or when taken to Foutah bring three or four head of cattle, which, when brought to Freetown, sell for from twelve to fourteen pounds, according to the state of the cattle trade.

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### The Niger.

FROM the Niger come reports of an extensive system of raiding for Slaves, and we learn that "a yearly tribute of Slaves is sent by the Chief of Ribago to the EMIR OF YOLA, who, in his turn, sends a gang of several hundreds to the SULTAN OF SOKOTU. The loss of these gangs during their journey across the Soudan is something enormous, as can well be imagined, considering that they are marched the whole distance by land in the dry season, and kept away from the river from fear of being interfered with by the Niger Company. They often go for days without water, and any of them falling out by the way are either murdered or left to perish." The Royal Niger Company seems to have done some good work with respect to the Slave-trade, but we think it is much to be regretted that the Government have not thought fit to publish the official report of Sir CLAUD MACDONALD'S mission of enquiry to the Niger and Benue Rivers.

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### The Congo Free State and Lake Tanganyika.

DURING the past year news was received of risings of the Arabs and the massacre of some of the leaders of Expeditions despatched by the Belgian Anti-Slavery Society, Commercial Companies, and others, in the territories of the Congo State. The disasters which have befallen the Anti-Slavery Expeditions have been those which were feared by the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, and for these and other reasons the Society has deprecated the sending out of armed volunteers to fight against the Slave-traders in Africa.



With a view to prevent misconception of its peaceful methods in working against the Slave-trade, the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY found it absolutely necessary to disassociate itself from all connection with armed expeditions for the suppression of the Slave-trade, by means of letters to the papers and by lectures on the part of some of its officials.

The Slave-trade in the region of Lake Tanganyika has been very rampant, and Captain JACQUES reported that during the first four months of the year 10,000 Wabembes had been raided and carried away to Ujiji to be sold. He could not say how many more had been killed in these raids, but he declared that the country which they lately inhabited had become a desert where thousands of unburied corpses poisoned the air; and the tribe might be considered destroyed. Ugonia was expecting to suffer a like fate.

We understand that the authorities are attempting to introduce Chinese labour into the Congo Free State, and in November last 540 Chinamen were landed at Matadi. It is said that they are intended to be employed in the construction of the Congo Railway, the progress of which has been much delayed. Great vigilance must be exercised in order to prevent these labourers from being reduced into a condition not much, if at all, removed from Slavery.

We cannot understand why those interested in the development of Africa cannot encourage the use of free labour by the offer of a suitable wage.

The condition of some of the labourers who proceeded to the Congo State from some of the British Possessions in Western Africa is reported to be so serious that the Society has requested the British Government to make an enquiry into the subject. The Report of Her Majesty's Consul on this question will be awaited with much anxiety by the Society, for the introduction of semi-servile labour into States where the institution of Slavery exists, or has existed, has not hitherto proved so beneficial to the labourer as to warrant its being adopted in territories which have not yet become civilised.

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### **Egypt.**

THERE is no specially new feature to record respecting the Slave-trade and Slavery in Egypt during the year 1892.

The lamented death of the Khedive TEWFIK has placed upon the Khedivial throne his son, who is both young and inexperienced, but there is every reason to believe that he will carry out the policy pursued by his father, and not allow any revival of the hateful traffic. With

LORD CROMER at Cairo, the Anti-Slavery policy of England is in safe hands, and the continuance of Colonel SCHAEFER BEY, in his old post, is a guarantee that no Slave-trading will be permitted, although some few instances of smuggling here and there along the extensive frontier may occasionally take place. Where there is a demand there will always be a supply, provided the price paid is not prohibitive, and that this is rapidly becoming so is evident from the fact that Slave-labour in Egypt is now declared to be more costly than free labour. When the people fully realise this fact even Slave smuggling will cease.

The CAIRO HOME FOR FREED WOMEN SLAVES is still doing good work, under the efficient care of the lady directress, Mrs. CREWE. Nearly one hundred women and girls passed through the Home in 1892, and found suitable places as domestic servants.

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### **The Persian Gulf.**

WE regret to state that owing to the increasing frequency of the importations of raw Slaves into the countries bordering on the Persian Gulf the attention of the Indian Government has been called to the matter. Many of the Omali are said to fly the French flag, and carry French papers, under cover of which they carry on the Slave-trade with impunity.

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### **The Red Sea.**

WE are glad to state that reports from the Red Sea district are more favourable than usual, owing mainly no doubt to the arrest of the principal Jeddah Slave-dealer. We trust that this state of things will continue, and that in our next Summary we shall not have to report any increase in the traffic in the Red Sea.

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### **Tripoli, Tunis and Morocco.**

IN the month of December, 1891, a Deputation from the Society, consisting of Mr. HENRY GURNEY and the Secretary, Mr. CHAS. H. ALLEN, visited Northern Africa, with the exception of Egypt, for the purpose of inquiring into the state of the Slave-trade and Slavery in that portion of the Dark Continent.

The first place visited was the

#### **PROVINCE OF TRIPOLI,**

where through the courtesy of Mr. NOEL MOORE, Her Majesty's Consul-General, the Deputation were introduced to the Governor, AHMED RESSIN PASHA. His Excellency declared that there was no Slave-trade

in his province, but he admitted that the towns of Bengazi and Derna, which are out of his jurisdiction, were still implicated in the Slave-trade.

The Governor also referred to the founding of a home for freed women Slaves in Tripoli, and the Deputation were unable to visit this institution owing to the fanaticism of the people, but the building was pointed out to them by the Consul.

Messrs. GURNEY and ALLEN reported that they had reason to believe that Tripoli itself and the Western portion of the province was free from implication in the Slave-trade, unless it be the smuggling of small bodies of Slaves across the frontier; but, on the other hand, they regret to find that a considerable traffic in Slaves was carried on in the Eastern portion of this part of the Turkish dominions.

This view of the Deputation was confirmed, later in the year of 1892, by a gentleman commissioned by the Society to visit Derna and Bengazi, and also by the Agents of the Italian Anti-Slavery Society.

We refer to this subject again elsewhere.

Leaving Tripoli, Messrs. GURNEY and ALLEN proceeded by steamer to

#### TUNIS,

calling at several of the ports on the way. At the city of Tunis the Deputation remained nearly a week. Here they were introduced by the British Consul-General, Mr. DRUMMOND HAY, to Monsieur REGNAULT, the acting Resident-General for France, who expressed the greatest willingness to shew the Deputation how the question of Slavery stood; and he assured them the Slave-trade was now quite extinct.

Through the introduction of Monsieur REGNAULT, the Secretary-General of the Tunisian Government permitted the Deputation to inspect the official books and papers relative to the liberation of the Slaves.

They found that the French in Tunis had adopted a plan of handing to every Slave papers of manumission, which he or she is bound to carry always about the person in order that they may be produced whenever asked for. Should a Slave be challenged by any official and unable to produce the papers of freedom, the *master* of such Slave would be brought before the Court and severely punished, unless he could prove that it was not through any fault of his. Even the difficulties presented by the *hareem* system, had been overcome in Tunisia, where the impenetrable veil which covers the women's apartments has been lifted for the purposes of justice. A band of ladies, and of negro women, had formed a Society for procuring information as to *hareem* Slaves, and to them, Slave women who had to make complaints of ill-treatment, or who wished to be set free, could always apply, and cases are reported of any women Slaves known to be without their papers of freedom. They also



learnt that during the sitting of the Brussels Conference, the BEY OF TUNIS issued a Decree in May, 1890, confirming the former Decree of 1846, and adding important clauses thereto, and in April, 1891, a circular was issued to the Caid (or Governors) of the Province respecting the carrying out of the Decree.

#### MOROCCO.

Passing through Algiers, Messrs. GURNEY and ALLEN proceeded by steamer to Tangier, where they arrived in the midst of an insurrection in the vicinity of that city. Here they found that there had been no amelioration in the lot either of the Slave or of the unfortunate prisoners in the vile dungeons of Morocco.

The Deputation were unavoidably prevented from proceeding to the south of the Empire, as originally intended, and returned to England in the month of February, 1892.

From various sources the news has been received of the continued activity of the Slave-trade in the Moorish Empire.

It is carried on more privately in the port towns in consequence of the action taken by the Society some years since in drawing attention to the scandal of the public sale of Slaves in the ports of Morocco; but in the interior Slaves are exposed for sale in the open market.

The supply is mainly drawn from the Soudan by various routes, but we regret to learn that Moors are in the habit of going south to some of the European settlements, proceeding into the interior and purchasing numbers of Slaves who are entered as members of the same family and shipped for Morocco in European mail steamers, either direct or *via* the Canary Islands. We trust that the French, German, Spanish, and British Governments will take every precaution to prevent this abuse of their flags.

It was a matter of great regret that the Diplomatic Expedition which proceeded to Fez, in the Spring of the year, was not successful in its efforts to conclude a Treaty of Commerce with the Sultan, and that consequently no Anti-Slavery measures were brought about in connection with the visit of the Mission to the second capital of the Moorish Empire. We have no doubt that the British Government will ere long dispatch another representative to negotiate a Treaty with the Sultan, and we trust that no stone will be left unturned to produce some measure which will tend to ameliorate the unhappy lot of the subjects of the Sultan.

With a view of strengthening the hands of the British Government in any measures which they might be proposing for adoption by the Sultan with respect to the Slave-trade and the Protégé system, the Committee of the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY in April last issued a circular letter to the principal Chambers of Commerce throughout the Kingdom

urging them to take steps to lay before Her Majesty's Government the importance of dealing with the question of opening up the immense resources of Morocco to legitimate commerce. They were also urged to suggest to the Government that the English Minister should press upon the Sultan the necessity of instituting those internal reforms, the lack of which rendered his country a disgrace to civilization. We are glad to state that some of the Chambers thus addressed passed strong resolutions in favour of the course suggested.

### **The Polynesian Labour Traffic.**

THE question of the revival of the Polynesian Labour Traffic to Queensland has again engaged the earnest attention of this Society.

In the month of June the Committee memorialized the MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, earnestly urging upon Her Majesty's Government the necessity of withholding the Imperial sanction from any continuance of Kanaka labour in Queensland.

In reply LORD SALISBURY referred the Committee to the Debates in Parliament (see *Reporter* for May and June, 1892), and also to the Parliamentary Papers which had been issued on the subject.

On a change of Government consequent on the General Election, the Committee memorialized the MARQUIS OF RIPON, calling upon the Government to take measures to at once put a stop to a traffic which in the Speech from the Throne, at the opening of Parliament, in 1872, Her Majesty had declared could scarcely be distinguished from the Slave-trade.

The difficulty, however, of applying the Imperial veto to Acts passed by the local Legislatures of large colonies like Queensland appears to be almost insurmountable, and for the time being, therefore, the question stands where it did when we published our last Summary.

The Committee have also memorialized the Government with respect to the traffic from the Gilbert Islands, but now that Great Britain has assumed the Protective over these Islands, mainly, we believe, in the interests of the Natives, we trust that some of the abuses which had been reported would be put a stop to, and it is satisfactory to know that the Colonial Office is fully alive to the importance of this question.

### **Gootoo and Inyokwana.**

OUR readers will remember this case, in which the Society succeeded in securing the liberty of two little Swazi boys, and upholding the principle "that Slaves cannot breathe in England."

We understand that a report has been received by the Court of

Chancery, in accordance with the judge's decision, from the guardians of the boys. The expenses of this case were very heavy, and although several of the Society's friends generously came forward with special contributions towards the costs of the proceedings, such sums have fallen short of the total expended by more than £100.

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### **Parliamentary.**

THE Parliamentary work of the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, during the past year, will be found specified under the different headings of this Summary. At the last General Election several of the Society's friends in the House of Commons were defeated at the polls, including Mr. ALFRED E. PEASE, a Member of the Anti-Slavery Committee, and one who had rendered much valuable service to the Anti-Slavery cause, during the last seven years. Another Member of the Anti-Slavery Committee, Mr. SYDNEY BUXTON, M.P., has become Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, a position for which he is peculiarly well fitted, when it is remembered that his father and grandfather were upholders of the Anti-Slavery cause, and were successful in bringing about the removal of so many abuses in the British Colonies.

Amongst Members and friends of the Anti-Slavery Society now in Parliament we note the following:—Sir JOSEPH W. PEASE; Sir J. H. KENNAWAY; Messrs. J. ALBERT BRIGHT; S. HOARE; H. F. PEASE; SAMUEL SMITH; H. J. WILSON, and J. A. PEASE.

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### **Anti-Slavery Lectures.**

THE Society has arranged for the delivery, throughout the country, of a series of lectures on Anti-Slavery topics.

These lectures are illustrated by lantern slides, which have been expressly made for the Society, depicting varied scenes in connection with Slavery and the Slave-trade in Africa and elsewhere.

The lectures are further illustrated by an exhibition of Slave yokes, chains, manacles, &c., which have been used in the Slave-trade, and during the past year have been the means of awakening an increased interest in the work of the Society.

The Committee are much indebted to the Ministers and Deacons of various denominations who have kindly placed their chapels, halls, and schoolrooms at the disposal of the Society's lecturer.

It is hoped that not only an increased interest in the anti-Slavery cause throughout the kingdom will be awakened by these lectures, but that a considerable augmentation of the Society's income will be the



result of this new undertaking on the part of the Society. No less than forty lectures were delivered in 1892, and we shall be happy to arrange for the delivery of lectures in any portion of London or the provinces.

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### Obituary.

THE hand of death has fallen very heavily upon many friends of the Anti-Slavery cause during the year which has just passed. In the opening weeks of 1892 His Royal Highness the DUKE OF CLARENCE, the eldest son of the Patron of the Society, was struck down in the prime of manhood, amidst universal sorrow.

The death of His Highness TEWFIK PASHA was a severe blow to the country of which he was the enlightened ruler. From his own lips some of the Members of the Society heard him express his pleasure that the Slave traffic was no longer openly carried on in Egypt proper, and that the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY had his warmest sympathy in the crusade against Slavery and the Slave-trade, in which it had so long and honourably been engaged.

The death of CARDINAL MANNING removed a former Member of the Committee, and, at one time, a warm supporter of the Society; whilst the lamented decease of CARDINAL LAVIGERIE inflicted a severe blow upon the various humanitarian institutions of which he was the founder, and upon Africa, of which he was the Roman Catholic Primate.

SAMUEL CROWTHER, formerly a Slave boy, and for many years Bishop of the Niger, was personally known to many of our readers, and in his death the Church Missionary Society has lost one of the most useful of its agents.

The late Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL, M.P., was one of those to whom the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY was occasionally indebted for assistance in its Parliamentary work, and, although unable to see eye to eye with him on many questions connected with the movement, its officials invariably met with a friendly reception, and frequently a ready willingness to render service in the House of Commons.

Sir LEWIS PELLY, M.P., formerly Political Resident at Zanzibar, and in the Persian Gulf, who died suddenly last April, was also well-known for his Anti-Slavery views, and resigned his office at Zanzibar mainly, we believe, in consequence of his holding views tending to bring about the abolition of the Slave-trade different from those of the Government. He accompanied the late Sir BARTLE FRERE on his Anti-Slave-Trade Mission, in 1872.

The sudden death of Sir JOHN GORRIE, late Chief Justice of Trinidad, removed one who for many years was a warm friend of the

Anti-Slavery cause, and of the coloured races in the Colonial possessions of Great Britain, in some of which he had long resided as Procurator-Fiscal and Chief Justice.

Amongst those more directly connected with the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, and its work, who have passed away during the year, the name of the poet WHITTIER at once recalls the struggles against the hideous system of Slavery which prevailed in the United States, and it was to his poems that much of the Anti-Slavery enthusiasm, which was aroused in the great American Republic, was due. He was a Corresponding Member of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY for more than fifty years, and, in the early days of the Abolition Movement in the United States, accompanied Mr. JOSEPH STURGE (who was then visiting America on an Anti-Slavery mission) to the Southern States, and joined with him in prosecuting enquiries into the internal Slave traffic between the Border Slave States and the cotton plantations of the South.

The death of Mrs. EDMUND STURGE removes one whose name, in Anti-Slavery and other humanitarian circles, has been a household word for half-a-century past, and much sympathy has been felt with her husband, Mr. EDMUND STURGE, the venerable Vice-President of the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, in his bereavement.

The name of Mrs. HENRY RICHARDSON, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, will also be familiar to many of our readers as having taken an active part in the Anti-Slavery struggles of the past fifty years and more.

By the death of LADY PEASE, wife of Sir JOSEPH W. PEASE, Bart., M.P., there passed away a representative of two families well-known for their zeal in the Anti-Slavery cause, from the earliest days of the movement against Slave-trade and Slavery, viz., those of PEASE and FOX.

Mrs. SAMUEL GURNEY, who died early in the year, was the widow of the late honoured President of the Society.

Mrs. JOSEPH ALLEN, wife of the Treasurer of the Society, was also a warm friend, and generous contributor to the Society's funds.

Of the other supporters of the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, whose decease it is our painful duty to record, we note the following:—Mr. BENJAMIN SCOTT; the Rev. RUSSELL LANT CARPENTER; Mr. JONATHAN BURTT, of York, and Miss EMILY STURGE, of Bristol.

One by one those who for so many years have borne the brunt of the struggle against the Slave-trade and Slavery are passing away, and leaving voids in the Anti-Slavery ranks which can with difficulty be filled. We earnestly trust that some of those whose fathers took such a keen interest in the welfare of the Slaves in past times will come forward,

and afford the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY that moral and pecuniary support, without which its efforts must be crippled, at a time when its exertions are more than ever required.

### **Legacies.**

DURING the past year the Society has received two legacies of £50 and £100, both of which sums had been left some years previously by two of its oldest friends, Mr. SAMUEL GURNEY (late President) and Mr. STAFFORD ALLEN (late Vice-President). This is a source to which many societies look for an augmentation of their income from subscriptions and donations. It is hoped, therefore, that when members are arranging their testamentary affairs they will not forget this old Society, which has worked for so long a time, and is working still, for the freedom of the Slave.

### **1893.**

THE year just opening brings with it reports of the great activity of the Slave-trade in Central Africa, even in countries which are under European protection.

From Madagascar also the news reaches us of Slave-raiding by the Sakalavas, and the subsequent sale of the Slaves captured to the Arab traders.

In the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, all the labour, with trifling (if any) exceptions is performed by Slaves, a fact which casts a great slur upon the British nation, whose Government is now more or less responsible for the local administration.

To the repeated appeals of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, for the abolition of the legal status of Slavery in those islands, the British Government have hitherto turned a deaf ear; but no efforts will be lacking on the part of the Society to bring about the extinction of Slavery in those islands, and in other British Protectorates, knowing, as it does, that it has behind it the support of the public opinion of the whole British Empire. On that public opinion the Society confidently relies, for it is convinced that the same moral force by which it has been enabled in the past to achieve so many victories on behalf of the Slave, will not be wanting now that its constant vigilance and activity are called for in the vast territories which, in a greater or less degree, form part of the dominions of the British Crown.

The great trust which, more than half a century ago, was delivered to the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, of safeguarding the moral policy of the nation with reference to Slavery and the Slave-trade, has never been revoked, and representing as it does the conscience of Great Britain in the great cause of human freedom, its work will never be complete until every vestige of Slavery shall have disappeared from the face of the earth.

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## Uganda.

SIR GERALD H. PORTAL, Her Majesty's Commissioner to Uganda, left Zanzibar at daylight on the 1st of January last.

On the day previous to his departure a deputation, consisting of the leading members of the Indian communities in Zanzibar (and amongst their number we note the name of TIPPOO TIB!) waited upon Sir GERALD PORTAL with an address of farewell.

In the evening of the same day the Imperial Commissioner was entertained at a farewell banquet by the British and American residents, after which Sir GERALD PORTAL and his Staff proceeded on board the *Philomel*.

When it is considered that his staff of officers only arrived on the 13th of December, Sir GERALD PORTAL cannot but be congratulated on the promptness and energy with which the preparations for his Mission were carried out.

On the 2nd of January the Expedition set out from Mombasa, and on the 13th it arrived at Tzavo, 150 miles from the coast. A telegraphic communication, received on February 10th, from Zanzibar, reported that Sir GERALD PORTAL and his Expedition had arrived all well, on the 28th January, at Machakos, which is, we believe, about 260 miles from Mombasa, and about 180 miles from Kavirondo Bay on the Victoria Nyanza.

We understand that *The Times* has sent out a Special Correspondent to Uganda, some of whose letters have already appeared in that journal, dated from various places on the route, so that there will no doubt be frequent communications with respect to the Expedition.

The following are the instructions which have been given to Her Majesty's Commissioner by LORD ROSEBERY. Explanations with regard to these instructions, which were taken to Zanzibar by Mr. RONN, and delivered by him to Sir GERALD PORTAL personally, will be found in our Parliamentary columns.

### THE EARL OF ROSEBERY TO SIR G. PORTAL.

FOREIGN OFFICE, December 10, 1892.

SIR,—The Imperial British East Africa Company have decided to complete the evacuation of Uganda by the 31st of March. With that evacuation Her Majesty's Government have determined not further to interfere.

2. They have, however, resolved to despatch you, in your capacity as Commissioner for the British sphere of influence in East Africa, to Uganda, there, after investigation on the spot, to frame a report, as expeditiously as may be, on the best means of dealing with the country, whether through Zanzibar or otherwise.

3. The company have offered to make over to Her Majesty's Government their establishments and stores in Uganda. It will be for you to judge how far it may be necessary or expedient to avail yourself of this proposal.

4. It will, of course, be your first duty to establish friendly relations with King MWANGA. It may be necessary for this purpose to give him presents, and even, for the moment, to subsidize him; but you will make no definite or permanent arrangement for subsidy without reference to me.

5. You will impress upon the King that in following the advice which you may give him he will best be proving the sincerity of the assurances given by him and his

chiefs in their letter to the QUEEN of the 17th of June, and that your mission cannot fail to satisfy him of the interest which is taken by the British Government in the country.

6. The other points on which you should dwell in your communications with the King and chiefs are the prevention of broils stirred up under the name of religion, the promotion of peace, the encouragement of commerce, the security of missionary enterprise, and the suppression of the Slave-trade.

7. One considerable difficulty is inherent in this situation. The company has of late concluded a great number of treaties with native chiefs, including one of perpetual friendship with MWANGA, which last, however, has not been ratified by the Secretary of State. There are many others (83 in all) which have been so approved. Whether an approval of this kind can be held in any way, directly or indirectly, to bind Her Majesty's Government, is a moot point. There is no doubt of the liability of the company, and of the fact that the company, having concluded these treaties, finds itself compelled to evacuate the country without making any endeavour to implement them. It is to be feared that this proceeding may have a prejudicial effect on the British good name in those regions, and I shall be anxious to have your report on this point with as little delay as possible, as well as on the course to adopt with reference to these engagements.

8. A mission to Central Africa cannot, of course, be conducted according to ordinary precedent; the infrequency and difficulty of communication may require a latitude beyond what is usual, and in intrusting to you these important duties Her Majesty's Government reckon with full confidence on your meeting with firmness and caution every occasion that may arise.

9. Her Majesty's Government desire that your Expedition shall be fully officered and equipped. There will therefore be attached to you Mr. ERNEST JAMES LENNOX BERKELEY, Colonel RHODES, Major OWEN, Captain PORTAL, and Lieutenant ARTHUR. You will also take the interpreters and guides that you may deem necessary, and an adequate force of armed natives.

10. It will be your duty to sign a commission appointing one of the above officials to act on your behalf in case of your being incapacitated. You will use your own discretion as to who it shall be.

11. During your absence on this mission it will be necessary to supply your place as Consul-General at Zanzibar. Her Majesty's Government will lose no time in sending there a suitable official to act in this capacity. Should, however, any interval elapse between your departure and his arrival, you will instruct Mr. C. S. SMITH to represent the agency.

I am, &c.,

ROSEBERRY.

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#### MR. JACKSON ON THE SLAVE-TRADE IN UGANDA.

"In my opinion the traffic in Slaves has considerably increased in the last three years, as, since the country has been opened up, the Masai are no longer dreaded as formerly. The consequence is that the so-called ivory traders, who at one time dare not pass through Masailand with less than 300 or 400 men, now go up in parties of fifty or sixty to Kavirondo and Busoga. In Busoga they can actually buy a Slave for a few yards of cloth. Extending our influence in these districts, and establishing stations, will be a very considerable check to this traffic, and the making of the railway to Victoria Nyanza will undoubtedly crush it once and for ever. A chain of stations should be made right up to Buganda, and one at Lake Baringo, the latter, although out of the direct route, is a central point where all these caravans meet to collect food."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

## Uganda.

### CAPTAIN LUGARD ON THE SLAVE-TRADE.

CAPTAIN LUGARD sent to *The Times* a long letter in reply to the statements in Mr. LABOUCHERE's speech in the House of Commons, on February 3rd, from which we extract the following paragraphs with respect to the Slave-trade.

"6. The argument of the Slave-trade. I quote from *The Times*, January 24th :—

"In a report published in the *Colonialblatt* the commander of the German station of Bukoba pays a well-deserved tribute to the exertions made by the English in Uganda, in the cause of humanity. Slave-raiding, he says, never existed in the Victoria Nyanza district, but the Slave-trade was carried on to a certain extent, though it was not nearly so widespread as in the regions around Lake Tanganyika. This, however, has entirely disappeared since the occupation of Uganda by the English and the foundation of the German stations."

"Bukoba being a point which commands the canoe traffic on the lake, or the overland route southwards, along which Slaves would pass if exported from Uganda or Unyoro, the German officer commanding there is well qualified to form an opinion. Slave-raiding was, however, extensively carried on by the Mohammedan faction, who were camped on the borders of Uganda in Unyoro, and they had laid waste enormous districts. When repatriated by me all their principal chiefs individually signed the treaty, by which they agreed to abandon all Slave-raiding. This is one result of British administration which would be lost by evacuation. (2) Moreover, as LORD SALISBURY has pointed out, the occupation of Uganda will bring us in touch with those further districts to the west and north-west, which are the headquarters of the worst forms of Slave-raiding, and, though outside the sphere of our actual administration, it is fair to hope that our proximity and influence may accomplish much to suppress this cruel practice. (3) That Slave caravans are still driven through the intermediate country between Uganda and coast, I can testify, since I myself met and dispersed one. In speaking at various places, I have carefully avoided overstating the case, and saying that the making of a railway and the occupation of Uganda would be the death-blow to Slavery throughout so vast a continent as Africa, and that it would supersede our cruisers (especially in the Red Sea and off the Portuguese littoral in south-east Africa); but I am convinced it would do a very, very great deal towards the objects we have in view, and I say this after a very close study of the question during the last five years in Nyassaland, East Africa, &c. Regarding the use of Slaves as porters, I am wholly against the system, and think that the use of Slave porters can be superseded by the construction of a portion of the railway, and by animal transport; but if the clause allowing Slaves to purchase their freedom be re-enacted, the use of Slaves is justifiable, since a single journey will enable a Slave to purchase his freedom and leave a large margin, and the operation of this clause would be as good a means of satisfying just claims of owners as any I can conceive. The plan was first devised by myself, and applied to the self-emancipation of fugitive Slaves. Mr. LABOUCHERE deals with this whole matter as though we, who had dealt with the subject in Africa, were prompted by some sinister motive. I can only urge, in defence of my own singleness of purpose, that in the operations against the worst class of Slave-raiders on Nyassa, I was very severely wounded, that I received no remuneration or reward of any sort for the long period of intense strain there, and that more recently in East Africa my efforts have continuously and unremittingly been directed to the same objects."



## Zanzibar.

THE following important correspondence with respect to the s.s. *Kilwa*, reported in our last number, and also with reference to the reported disgraceful state of the prison at Zanzibar, in which nine Arabs who were imprisoned for complicity in the Slave-trade, are alleged to have died, has passed between the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY and Her Majesty's Foreign Office. We earnestly hope that the English Government are fully alive to the questions involved, and trust that as Great Britain is now the paramount Power in Zanzibar, steps will be speedily taken, not only to remove the abuses referred to above, but also to bring about the abolition of the Legal Status of Slavery, which has been repeatedly urged by the Society upon every English Ministry during the past ten years:—

(No. 1.)

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY,

55, New Broad Street, London, E.C.

February 7th, 1893.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., H.M.  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

MY LORD,—The attention of the Committee of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY has been called to the circumstances connected with the release of the s.s. *Kilwa* by a decision of the Zanzibar Court, and I am desired by the Committee to lay before you the following facts, which came out at the trial, and have naturally led to much comment both in the Colonial press and at home.

It would appear that the Slavers of Zanzibar had for some time previous to the capture of the *Kilwa* resorted to the steamers belonging to the Sultan as a means for running Slaves to Pemba. This was so far a matter of notoriety that the captain of the *Blanche*, one of the cruisers for the suppression of the Slave-trade, had no difficulty in catching the *Kilwa* in the act, during the month of September last, on which occasion twelve Slaves, together with their owners—six in number—were taken out of her on the way to Pemba.

At the trial, presided over by Judge CRACKNALL, in the Consular Court, the evidence was so clearly in favour of the captors, that the Slaves were set free and their owners imprisoned.

Under Articles 49, 52, and 59 of the Brussels Act (copy of which Articles are annexed), the *Kilwa* herself should have become the prize of the *Blanche*; but, to the astonishment of the crew, Captain LINDLEY, the Commander of the *Blanche*, withdrew the case against the *Kilwa*, under what was conceived to be external pressure. At the same time the Government of Zanzibar consented to pay all costs.

My Committee have to point out to your Lordship that which appears to be a grave danger in this case, in which there was no question as to the fact of Slaves being shipped on board the *Kilwa*. The impression left upon the minds of the ship's company was that they had been improperly deprived of a prize valued at £1,800. This, in itself, is not calculated to stimulate the vigilance of the naval force upon the spot. In the second place, it cannot fail to be said that one law exists for a large vessel virtually owned and controlled by the British authorities at Zanzibar when she is caught Slaving, whilst another prevails in the case of an Arab dhow owned by poor men. The Committee are aware that, although the *Kilwa* belongs to the Sovereign of Zanzibar, all details connected with her shipments of passengers and goods are left to British officers and *employés*, and it would seem to the looker-on that there is quite room to suspect that Captain LINDLEY'S possibly enforced action in not pressing for the *Kilwa's* condemnation was not quite as free from all possibility of suspicion (with these considerations in view) as might be deemed desirable.

I am further to ask whether, in the face of the dissatisfaction which is being expressed, your Lordship will see fit to cause further inquiry to be made, in order that a better explanation of the act under review may be arrived at.

By Order of the Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

J. EASTOE TEALL, *Assistant Secretary*.

(Enclosure in No. 1.)

#### ARTICLE XLIX.

If, in carrying out the supervision mentioned in the preceding Articles, the officer in command of the cruiser is convinced that an act of Slave-trade has been committed on board during the passage, or that irrefutable proofs exist against the captain, or fitter-out, for accusing him of fraudulent use of the flag, of fraud, or participation in Slave-trade, he shall conduct the arrested vessel to the nearest port of the zone where there is a competent authority of the Power whose flag has been used, etc.

#### ARTICLE LII.

If the examination shows that an act of Slave-trade, made clear by the presence on board of Slaves destined for sale, or any other Slave-trade offence provided for by special Convention, the vessel and cargo shall remain sequestered in charge of the authority who shall have directed the inquiry.

The captain and crew shall be handed over to the Tribunals fixed by Articles LIV. and LVI. The Slaves shall be set at liberty as soon as the Judgment has been delivered, etc.

#### ARTICLE LIX.

In case of condemnation, the sequestered vessel shall be declared lawfully seized for the benefit of the captor.

The captain, crew, and all other persons found guilty shall be punished according to the gravity of the crimes or offences committed by them, and in accordance with Article V.

(No. 2.)

FOREIGN OFFICE, *February 20th*, 1893.

SIR,—I am directed by the EARL OF ROSEBERY to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, respecting the visit of H.M.S. *Blanche* to the steamship *Kilwa*, and I am to transmit to you herewith copy of the Order which was made in the case, on October 8 last, by Mr. CRACKNALL, Judge of the Consular Court at Zanzibar.

Your Committee will perceive that Captain LINDLEY was permitted to withdraw the case against the vessel because the Judge, after consultation with Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General, his superior judicial officer, was satisfied that, though it was proved that the Slaves had been brought on board, no charge of Slave-trading, in a criminal sense, had been preferred or appeared on the evidence against the manager, captain, or officers of the ship, or any member of the crew. The release of the vessel under these circumstances was obviously correct.

I am to add that no evidence to the contrary is adduced in your letter beyond remarks alleged to have been made by unnamed members of the crew of the *Blanche*, who may be presumed to have been not impossibly under the influence of a certain feeling of disappointment at the deprivation of possible prize money from the condemnation of the vessel.

The Committee can scarcely intend to base, upon such slender foundations, imputations of miscarriage of justice and of complicity in supporting abuses directed against British officers, whose honour and zeal have hitherto been unquestioned.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

(Signed) P. W. CURRIE.

(Enclosure in No. 2.)

#### ORDER OF THE COURT.

This is an application to be allowed to withdraw the case against this vessel, proceeding only against the Slaves.

After consideration and consultation with Sir GERALD PORTAL, I will accede to the request, as no charge of any Slave-trading, in a criminal sense, is preferred or appears on the evidence against the manager, Captain HARDINGE, or the captain and officers, or any member of the crew.

As I understand, no defence is tendered against the plaintiff's case as regards the Slaves, they having all declared that they were detained on board against their will, and as I see no reason to doubt their declaration, they are entitled to their freedom.

The Government of Zanzibar has undertaken to pay the costs of the Court.

(Signed) W. B. CRACKNALL.

October 8, 1892.

(No. 3.)

55, NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.,

8th February, 1893.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., HER MAJESTY'S  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

MY LORD,—On behalf of the Committee of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN  
ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, I have the honour to submit the following to your  
Lordship.



It would appear that in the month of August, 1892, H.M.S. *Blanche* captured an Arab dhow off the Island of Pemba, in which were thirty-three Slaves. The vessel was condemned in the Consular Court of Zanzibar and the Slaves set free. The Arabs on board the dhow were sent to prison, and at the time it was remarked that this meant death. We find this prediction recorded in the *Cape Times* in its issue of the 18th of last November.

Intelligence has now reached us that the whole of the nine Arabs perished in prison a few weeks ago.

I am to inquire whether any details have reached your Lordship concerning the alleged fatality, and, at the same time, to say that the existence of such prisons as are known to be at Zanzibar, with all their accompanying horrors, does not, in the judgment of my Committee, appear to be compatible with the better regulations which might presumably be expected in a British Protectorate.

By order of the Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's obedient, humble servant,

J. EASTOE TEALL,

*Assistant Secretary.*

(No. 4.)

FOREIGN OFFICE,

15th February, 1893.

SIR,—I am directed by the EARL OF ROSEBURY to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, in regard to the capture of an Arab dhow, off Pemba, by H.M.S. *Blanche*.

In reply, I am to state that Sir GERALD PORTAL, in reporting the condemnation of this dhow, made no mention of the imprisonment of the Arabs, nor has the rumoured death of these men been referred to in the despatches from Zanzibar.

His Lordship will cause a copy of your letter to be sent to Mr. RODD, with a request that he will furnish a report on the case.

I am to add that the amelioration of the prison at Zanzibar has been constantly pressed on the Sultan's Government by successive British officials at Her Majesty's Agency.

In June, 1891, Consul SMITH reported that the Sultan was at last building entirely fresh prison accommodation within the fort, and that this was to be supplied with all sanitary appliances, and added that he should be careful to keep the matter in his Highness's mind.

Your Committee will doubtless learn with satisfaction that one of the results of the assumption of the Protectorate by Great Britain will be the application of a remedy to this serious abuse.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

(Signed) P. W. CURRIE.

*The Secretary, BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.*

## PARLIAMENTARY.

### House of Lords.

#### EXTRACT FROM THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

*January 31st, 1893.*

"In connection with the approaching evacuation of Uganda by the British East Africa Company, I have deemed it expedient to authorise a Commissioner of experience and ability to examine on the spot, with adequate provisions for his safety, into the best means of dealing with the country, and to report to my Government upon the subject.

"In view of recent occurrences in Egypt, I have determined on making a slight augmentation in the number of British troops there stationed. This measure does not indicate any change of policy, or any modification of the assurances which my Government have given from time to time respecting the occupation of that country.

"The Khedive has declared, in terms satisfactory to me, his intention to follow henceforward the established practice of previous consultation with my Government in political affairs, and his desire to act in cordial co-operation with it.

"In relation both to Egypt and to Uganda, papers in continuation of those heretofore presented will at once be laid before you."

LORD BRASSEY, in the course of his speech in moving the Address, said :—Attention had of late been specially directed to Africa. An agreement had been authorised, by which a subsidy would be given by the Crown to the colony of Bechuanaland, in aid of the construction of railways. Sir GERALD PORTAL had been sent on an arduous mission to Uganda. The action taken by the Government in both these cases would command general approval.

The MARQUIS OF SALISBURY :—My lords, the noble lords who moved and seconded the Address have not followed strictly the order of the Speech. I think perhaps it would be more convenient that I should do so, and therefore my first remarks must apply to the questions of foreign affairs with which the Speech commences. But in doing so I would say at once that in respect to both the matters mentioned it appears to me that the conduct of Her Majesty's Government has been founded upon sound principles and carried out with judgment and with skill. (Hear, hear.) I am speaking, of course, only of what I know. No papers have yet been laid before us, and anything that is said must be said with reserve. I only wish to make this observation to show that in what I am going to say I do not wish in the slightest degree to question any of the acts of the Government in this respect. I desire to make one observation in regard to each of the important subjects to which this part of the Speech relates. My lords, with respect to Uganda, I do not think it is sufficiently appreciated how closely our future efforts for the suppression of the Slave-trade are mixed up with our treatment of the territory of Uganda. We do not sufficiently recognise the change that has come over the condition of that great enterprise in which this nation has been so long engaged, namely, the extermination of the terrible trade in men. (Hear, hear.) The maritime blockade has been only partially successful, and its success does not seem to me to increase. There is a good reason for this, a reason which operates even now, which will operate more as time goes on, and which to some extent weakens the hands and frustrates the efforts of our gallant commanders on that coast. It is well known that we have treaties with all the nations of the

world except one, by which there is a mutual right of search—that is to say, we can go into their vessels and they can come into ours in order to see that this trade is not carried on in any vessel sailing under their flags or under ours. The French Government, for reasons which I do not wish to comment on or to examine into—I have no right to assume that attitude—I am merely dealing with an historical fact—have always refused to allow this examination, and therefore in the case of any vessel sailing under the French flag no English officer can go into the hold of that ship to see whether any Slaves are there or not. Of course if French men-of-war be on the station they will exercise that power for themselves, but it is not necessary to say that that is not at all so effective a security as if the power were given to other nations to do it. There is no doubt that French trade is increasing in those seas, and as French trade increases I fear that this abuse of the French flag at all events is a danger to which we must look. This consideration leads me, as I think it has led many people, to believe that the maritime suppression of the Slave-trade will not in the end enable us to put a stop to the hateful traffic. If we wish to grapple with it we must take it by the throat. We must go to it in the country where it arises, and if we are able, as I trust we shall be, to establish our beneficent sway and influence in these great districts which have come legally under our rule, I believe that one of the first and greatest results will be the accomplishment of that grand task to which England, now for a century, has devoted all her energies. (Cheers.) With reference to Egypt I will only say this: I quite concur in the observation that is made in the Speech that the measures which have been taken do not indicate any modification of the assurances given by the Government. Undoubtedly these assurances retain all their strength. But the situation is very different from what it was. The state of things to which these assurances apply has been materially altered by the events which have taken place. The assurance we have given is that we do not desire to remain in Egypt longer than is necessary in order to secure it against certain dangers, but what has happened shows us that those dangers are more numerous, more lively, more difficult to deal with than some years back we had a right to believe. I think, therefore, that what has taken place, though it does not modify the assurances of Great Britain, has made the prospect of early evacuation much more difficult and hazardous.

The EARL OF KIMBERLEY:—Before referring to the various points raised by the noble Marquis in the course of his speech, I wish to tender my thanks to my noble friends behind me for the very able manner in which they have executed the task which they had undertaken. I have nothing to complain of in the tone of the speech of the noble Marquis, who treated the topics which he dealt with in a calm and temperate manner. The first point to which the noble Marquis referred was one as to which I am glad that he expressed entire approval—I refer to the course taken by Her Majesty's Government in foreign affairs. (Hear, hear.) My noble friend who sits behind me, in his administration of foreign affairs during the time that he has held the seals of the Foreign Office, has shown an ability which demands, and has received, the respect and confidence of the country. (Hear, hear.) It is no small advantage, not merely to the Government, but to the nation at large, when Ministers are able to continue the foreign policy of their predecessors. With respect to our policy in Africa, I agree with the noble Marquis that the suppression of the Slave-trade is certainly one of the objects at which we should aim. Every one in this country feels deeply on that subject, and therefore I wish to re-echo the opinion expressed by the noble Marquis with respect to it. With regard to the paragraph



in the Speech from the Throne referring to Egypt, it will be agreed, I think, on all sides that any Government which may hold office here should have no hesitation whatever in maintaining the position we have taken up in that country, in insuring the safety of our troops and securing peace and order in Egypt. (Hear, hear.) The noble Marquis referred to that portion of the Speech which, speaking of the augmentation in the number of British troops stationed in Egypt, says :—"This measure does not indicate any change of policy or any modification of the assurances which my Government have given from time to time respecting the occupation of that country." The noble Marquis remarked that no change of policy was indicated by what had been done. So far I re-echo what the noble Marquis stated, and I cannot but hope that the **KHEDIVE OF EGYPT**, who is young and inexperienced in government, and who may have been moved by unwise advisers, will take to heart what has happened and will see that such suspicions as he may have entertained will not be allowed to go so far as to cause apprehensions in the mind of the people of Egypt. We feel that we shall have the universal support of the country as long as the occupation continues in doing all that is necessary for maintaining our authority with due regard to the interests of this country and of Egypt. (Hear, hear.)

### House of Commons.

*January 31st, 1893.*

**MR. LAMBERT**, in moving the address in reply to the Queen's Speech (see House of Lords above), said :—It must be a matter of sincere gratification to all that the first paragraph of Her Majesty's Speech stated that the horrors of war were not known in Her Majesty's dominions, and that this country's relations with all Foreign Powers were eminently satisfactory. That peace had been maintained which was so essential to the prosperity of Britain's gigantic commercial enterprise, and it was to be hoped that it would long continue. The House would remember that the late Government granted a charter to the British East Africa Company for trading and other purposes in Uganda. Through the unfortunate failure of the anticipations of that company they had withdrawn from the country, and the charter had involved some Government control. It was difficult to relieve control from responsibility, and therefore the Government had thought fit to send a Commissioner to Uganda to inquire how far Her Majesty's Government was involved. The House would be glad to learn that papers were promised at the earliest possible moment. (Hear, hear.) As to Egypt, all were well aware of the recent complications which had occurred there. The Khedive had deposed a Minister who was in sympathy with British guidance, and had appointed another Minister whom the British Commissioner could not recognise as favourable to the reforms which happily had been initiated in Egypt under British guidance. (Opposition cheers.) When this was brought to the Khedive's knowledge he deposed the unsuitable Minister, and although he had made reparation and had promised in all future matters to rule in consonance with the wishes of the British Government (Opposition cheers), yet that could not avert the grave consequences of what might be but a slight youthful indiscretion on the part of one occupying so high and responsible a position. (Hear, hear.) It had been necessary, therefore, to slightly increase the forces in Egypt. (Opposition cheers.) It was one of the unsatisfactory features of the military occupation that, supposing there were an outbreak in Cairo, this country might be held responsible for the damage to foreign residents. Therefore the Government had thought fit to maintain a force in Egypt which would be capable of maintaining that law and order which was

so necessary for the government of the country. (Opposition cheers.) The Egyptian Government had desired an increase of the native army, but that wish had been frustrated, not by British influence; and, further, the recent invasion of the Dervishes had guided the Government in the step which they had taken. (Hear, hear.) The Government, however, wished it to be distinctly understood that this step involved no change of policy whatever; that the terms of the Queen's Speech of 1883 would be adhered to, and that the withdrawal of the British troops would proceed as rapidly as a prudent consideration of the circumstances would allow. (Opposition cries of "Oh.") The action of the Government would win the approval of everyone for its temperateness and vigour. (Hear, hear.)

MR. BALFOUR:—I now pass on to those paragraphs of the Speech which deal with very important questions of foreign and colonial policy. The first paragraph deals with the subject of Uganda, and on this subject, though I have a question to ask the Government, I have nothing but congratulations to offer them on the policy which I understand they have adopted. (Opposition cheers.) There was a moment when I, at all events, was afraid that the spirit which animated them in opposition might continue to animate them in office (cheers and laughter), and that we should find that they dealt with the problem of Uganda as responsible statesmen very much in the spirit of those debates which we all have fresh in our minds, and which took place in the spring of last year. (Hear, hear.) Some influence, or influences, of which I do not possess the secret, appear to have made a profound modification in the views of the most powerful members of the present Administration. (Hear, hear.) At all events, we have heard nothing of that policy of abandonment which certainly I understood to be recommended by the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at that time merely as the Member for Derby. (Laughter.) However, better counsels have prevailed, and I do not wish to rake up unnecessarily what is past; but I should like to ask with regard to the future what provision the Government have made—I do not ask for details, but for some general account of the provision they have made—for that interval which I presume must elapse between the abandonment of Uganda by the company and the period when some final and permanent arrangement will be made by the Government for dealing with the great interests of the vast populations of that district. I notice with satisfaction that the Government are fully alive to the fact that unless Sir GERALD PORTAL be supported by material force he is not likely to be able to carry out with success the object of his mission; but when that mission has been accomplished—when he leaves Uganda and returns to make a report, I should like to know what plan the Government have for administering the country. They must have had some policy on the subject, and all I desire to know is whether it is not inconsistent with the public interest to tell us what that policy is. As to Egypt, I am glad to say that this is a matter on which we need not do otherwise than congratulate the Government. They had to meet a difficult and very sudden crisis—apparently a crisis of which no previous warning was given, and which they had no reason to anticipate. They met it with courage, with directness and promptitude, which is the very best way to secure that their object shall be peaceably accomplished. I can assure them that if their policy in the matter of Egypt, and in other foreign affairs, is on the same lines as those which they have pursued during the last few weeks they may count on the support of gentlemen sitting on this side of the House. (Opposition cheers.) I should like to know further from the Right Hon. Gentleman whether he can give us any account of the causes which have led to this apparently most unexpected difficulty. I do not anticipate an

exhaustive account of those causes from him, because I imagine that it is impossible to deny that among them are to be found the somewhat rash utterances which he and the Secretary for Ireland made on the subject not long ago. (Opposition cheers.) I do not presume to know what policy with regard to Egypt was in their minds when they made these statements, but they surely might have known, and if they did not know they ought to have known, that it is impossible for men in their position, speaking whether as Ministers or as ex-Ministers, to make the statements which they did make about our position in Egypt, without raising expectations in foreign countries and in Egypt itself, which cannot but be fruitful, and I fear have been fruitful, of great trouble. (Opposition cheers.) I notice that it is stated in the Speech from the Throne that the necessarily strong measure of sending troops to Egypt does not indicate any change of policy or any modifications of the assurances which Her Majesty's Government have given from time to time as to the occupation of that country. Do not let us be under the delusion that, because no such modification is made, or, indeed, ought to be made, nevertheless it is not true that the condition is changed, is materially changed, and may remain changed for many years to come, by the incident which has just occurred. It has now been brought home to us in the clearest manner, and emphasized by acts of policy which cannot be easily forgotten, that in addition to the external and internal constitution, in addition to all the difficulties which have ensued, and must ensue, from the peculiar relations in which Egypt stands to the Powers of Europe, this further difficulty is added—that the whole fruits of our long years of labour in that country may, in one moment, be upset by a Ministerial crisis in Cairo. In fact, it is proved, and stands evident upon the Speech from the Throne, that we cannot forget, and cannot modify the view which we took, and must take, of the difficulties surrounding our position in Egypt, and of the added responsibilities which are thrown upon us. (Hear, hear.) I do not think it necessary to say more than I have said upon the first portion of the Queen's Speech dealing with questions of foreign affairs.

**MR. GLADSTONE:**—The Right Hon. Gentleman commented on two paragraphs of the Speech which relate to foreign affairs. He said he did not complain of the spirit of the paragraph which touches upon the case of Uganda, though he appeared to think it was totally out of keeping with the sentiments delivered by those who were in opposition when they questioned some proceedings of the late Government in respect to the country. He put to me a question which was pointed in its nature and which deserves a reply. He wanted to know if Sir GERALD PORTAL proceeds to Uganda and makes a report upon the subject; he wanted to know what provision is to be made for the peace of the country during the period between his making that report and the time when that report could have been received, could have been considered, and could have been acted upon. The Right Hon. Gentleman seems very sensitive upon the condition of Uganda during a period of about nine or twelve months. Well, does he not see that, with tenfold force, the question he has put applies to the declaration of policy he made himself on behalf of his colleagues with regard to Uganda? What was that declaration of policy? He disclaimed abandonment. He announced, in 1892, his intention to apply to Parliament in 1893 for powers to make a railway. The making of that railway of over 700 miles, and over an elevation of many thousand feet, must have occupied, I suppose, at least three or four years, besides the preliminary year of delay with which he began. What was to become of Uganda during those five years? (Cheers.) He is horrified at the idea that Uganda should be for one moment without the presence of the



British Government, but he contemplated with perfect satisfaction the five years—a most moderate estimate if Parliament had ever agreed to his railway at all, of which I am doubtful—of interval which must have elapsed. But I am aware that although that is a *tu quoque* (hear hear), it is in a form which shows that five or six times what we appear to contemplate was the fixed, and announced as the fixed, policy of the late Government. Yet *tu quoque* is a poor argument if you rest on *tu quoque* alone. The reason why we have done this is because our inquiry is a *bond fide* inquiry. With respect to Uganda there may be those in this House who think, and there may be many who desire, that we should wash our hands of it (hear, hear), and have nothing to say to it (hear, hear); but these gentlemen ought to consider what are the terms of the charter given by the Crown to the East Africa Company. I will not at this time of the night attempt to weary the House by reading the terms of that charter, but they are most remarkable, by reason of the largeness of the powers which they convey to the Secretary of State both for compelling and controlling the company, and by the manner in which they give authority to the company for exercising the rights of government. They certainly raise questions which are not very easily answered. What is the condition of the British Government? Its condition is this—that it has been represented in the country almost exclusively by two parties—on one side the agents of the East Africa Company, and on the other side by the missionaries, to whose independent efforts all possible honour is due. But there is no evidence before us which proceeds from persons who are entitled or who are even well qualified to speak on the part of the British people or direct the course which they ought to take. The Government of the Right Hon. Gentleman accepted—I do not see how they could do otherwise—the policy of the withdrawal of the company. They provided—and I do not see well how they could wisely have provided—no machinery to take up the actual work of the company and form a consecutive line of proceedings. They left a state of things in which we are almost entirely in the dark as to what may be the relations and what the expectations created by the circumstances that have taken place. We had no other course to take except by sending a competent person to that country in order to make investigations upon the spot, and to place ourselves in such a position that we might be enabled to arrive at a rational, temperate, and well-informed conclusion on behalf of Parliament and the country. I have seen it stated by a gentleman of very good authority that Sir GERALD PORTAL carries to Uganda a foregone conclusion, and that he is a determined advocate of annexation. If that be so, it is not known to us; it is not believed by us. It is believed and it is known, because we proceed on his own official declaration, that he proceeds there with large and comprehensive views upon the whole question, with an earnest desire to bring out its difficulties as well as its obligations, and advise that course which may appear, on the whole, best, and place us in a condition in which we may be enabled to arrive at a rational conclusion. That is the state of the case with regard to Uganda. Then comes the criticism of the Right Hon. Gentleman with regard to the case of Egypt. The Right Hon. Gentleman asked me if I can give the causes of the late proceedings of the Khedive. I think that I am hardly the person to whom such a question should be addressed. What we lament, what we consider to be an unfortunate incident, is that the Khedive had no communication whatever with us about those causes when he took a very important measure of internal government, and took it not, as we conceived, in conformity with the usage which had been long established and uninterruptedly pursued. With one exception I may say this, that there was a circumstance which

tended to raise the presumption that the Prime Minister whom he dismissed was a person whom he might properly dismiss, as he was undoubtedly suffering at the time from grave indisposition, which for the time disqualified him from discharging the duties of his office, but not permanently disqualified him as we believe. But there was at the same time a fair case open which it was not fair to suppress the mention of. Beyond that I am afraid I must refer the Right Hon. Gentleman to other sources. What we had to do was to consider the state of the facts which arose in consequence of the action of the Khedive. It was an act followed by explanations and assurances on his part, the terms of which were such that it was impossible for us to take exception to them. We considered that as far as those terms are concerned, the relations of the two Governments are placed on a footing which ought to be perfectly satisfactory. But the Right Hon. Gentleman went a little beyond this, with what intention I do not exactly know. He said that there had been rash declarations on the subject of Egyptian policy. (Opposition cheers.) It appears to me, when statements of that kind are made, and made with regard to persons whom they treat as having important influence on public policy, they ought to be supported by something like particulars (cheers), because I utterly deny the statement of the Right Hon. Gentleman. What has been said by me on the subject of Egypt is, in my opinion, not half so dangerous as what has been said to-night by the Right Hon. Gentleman himself. (Cheers.) Now, I am referring to what all have heard. What did he mean by his descriptions of the increase of difficulties in Egypt? Why did he dwell on that subject except in order to suggest that we ought to lose no time in getting out of it. (Opposition cries of "Oh, oh.") If we are to lose no time in getting out of it, what is the point in any declaration made by me to which he refers as rash and dangerous? I believe that what I said was to this effect, that if LORD SALISBURY was able to carry to a conclusion the plans of policy which he had himself promulgated and pursued with great zeal and much ability, and had nearly brought to a conclusion, he would have my support and approval in completing them. Be it recollected that if LORD SALISBURY's plans, if the DRUMMOND WOLFF Treaty had been ratified—and it was not his fault that it was not ratified—we should at this moment have been out of Egypt. (Cheers.) It was to an agency drawn from a different source—it was due to an adverse series of circumstances which we were taught to believe were untoward circumstances—that that treaty was not carried into effect. In Egypt there are two things perfectly distinct; the one is the condition of the occupation, the increasing dangers, as the Right Hon. Gentleman said, which surround it, and the grave political considerations which are thereby raised, and which I think ought to be reserved for most careful and dispassionate consideration. That is one of the questions connected with Egypt. We have not had to deal with such a question; we may have to deal with it as our predecessors have had. A communication was made in the autumn to the British Government to the effect that the French Government desired to address to us some friendly overture on that subject; and the French Government was assured, in reply, that any such overture would be received by us in a corresponding spirit. Nothing has occurred in consequence of those preliminary communications, but possibly something may occur; and, if anything should occur, undoubtedly among the historical circumstances which may assist in guiding us there will be the very important proceedings adopted by the late Government. But the question before us has been a totally different one. I believe that, not perhaps the whole of Europe, but almost the whole of Europe perceives that we virtually had no option in the crisis which has occurred. The responsibility of

our position was of the gravest character. We are entirely and exclusively responsible for the maintenance of peace and order in Egypt, and the question whether the evacuation of Egypt would be a sound policy or not is a totally distinct question; and any opinion that any man may hold upon it ought on no account to be allowed to obscure his perceptions with regard to that other and for the moment imperative question—what are our duties. If we are responsible for a breach of order to all who may suffer by that breach, for my part I do not see how that responsibility is to be evaded; but, then, undoubtedly, we must not flinch, whether it be agreeable to us or not, from doing that which, upon a rational and temperate view of the circumstances, is necessary for the purpose of maintaining order. (Cheers.) We do not proceed upon any vague intimation, on any unwarranted assumption of our own, but upon the assurances both of civil and military authority on the spot; and I rejoice to think that what has been done has received the general acquiescence and the approval, I think, of the great body of the community both at home and abroad.

On the 3rd February, Mr. LABOUCHERE moved the following Amendment to the Address:—"And humbly ventures to express the hope that the Commissioner who has been sent by your Majesty to Uganda will effect the evacuation of that country by the British East Africa Company without any increase in your Majesty's Imperial responsibilities."

We regret that want of space prevents our inserting any portion of the long debate which followed, and, as the Honourable Member did not think it necessary to divide the House upon his amendment, we content ourselves with stating that in his reply to Mr. LABOUCHERE, Mr. GLADSTONE informed the House that Sir GERALD PORTAL had not been sent to effect the evacuation of Uganda. He had gone to examine into all the alternatives that might present themselves. He had not been sent simply at a venture. Before the Government had sent him he had placed them in full possession of his views, and it was whilst in full possession of those views, and whilst satisfied that they were views which entitled him to confidence, that they availed themselves of his services for the purpose of assisting them in a task of difficult accomplishment, and which a miscarriage of judgment would render almost hopeless.

#### UGANDA.

*February 6th.*

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN:—I gave notice of a question to the Prime Minister for to-day, but, as I gathered that his speech on Friday night contained an answer to that question, I asked that it should be withdrawn from the paper. I understand, however, that my Right Hon. Friend wishes that it should be put, and I therefore beg to ask him what arrangements have been made for the preservation of the peace in Uganda in the interval between the time of Sir GERALD PORTAL's report and the decision of the Government on the question of the retention of the country?

Mr. GLADSTONE:—I am obliged to my Right Hon. Friend for putting this question, because now for the first time, instead of speaking from memory, subject to a certain degree of error, the House has full documents before it which contain statements that must be regarded as authoritative. The House is aware from the Speech from the Throne that Sir G. PORTAL has undertaken the important charge which was named in the Queen's Speech, he being already Her Majesty's Commissioner for the British sphere of influence, lying to the north of the German sphere of influence. He therefore has, it may be said, a double title in this matter. In the former capacity he has received instructions from LORD ROSEBERY, which will be found at pages 50 and 51



of the papers circulated this morning. The part that is material, perhaps, for the present subject, is paragraph 8 of that instruction, which runs as follows :—"A mission to Central Africa cannot, of course, be conducted according to ordinary precedent. The infrequency and difficulty of communication may require a latitude beyond what is usual, and in intrusting to you these important duties Her Majesty's Government reckon with full confidence on your meeting with firmness and caution every occasion that may arise." That is the instruction to Sir G. PORTAL as charged with the present inquiry. But we have already received—in a document that has been for some time before the House, but which may have escaped the memory of the House—a very full statement of the powers which accrue to him in his capacity as Commissioner in the sphere of influence. That document will be found at pages 1 to 3 of the papers "Africa No. 4" of 1892, and the passage which I may read to the House, because I think it contains the pith of the matter, is on page 2. It is a rather long paragraph, of which the first part refers to the conduct of Sir G. PORTAL in the districts where the company is now in the full exercise of its functions, and that I need not read. It will only distract the attention of the House, inasmuch as the arrival of Sir G. PORTAL can only take place on the eve of the withdrawal of the company and its evacuation of the country. The sixth line of that paragraph contains the material instruction with respect to the territories where the company is not in active operation, and it runs thus :—"You should endeavour, so far as your opportunities go, to make British influence felt by the natives, to maintain peace and order, to develop legitimate trade, to secure the safe circulation of traders and travellers, and generally, without undue interference with tribal government and native habits and customs, to pave the way for conferring on the natives the benefits of civilization, which on the suppression of the evils of the Slave-trade should accompany the revival of prosperity." Of course, those instructions by LORD SALISBURY were given without any special reference to the present special function ; but those are powers that are still in full operation, and which nothing has been done either to restrain or to alter in any manner. I think, therefore, it will be seen, first of all, that in his capacity with respect to the present inquiry, which was mentioned in the Speech from the Throne, Sir G. PORTAL has a large discretion under the instructions that have been given to him. It will also be seen that in his capacity as Commissioner he has ample authority to make whatever arrangements he may find in the exercise of wisdom and prudence to be necessary and to be within his power, so far as regards the time when he is in Uganda himself, or—if he should think fit or should find it necessary to leave Uganda—to make an arrangement which will operate during his absence. I wish to make an apology to my Hon. Friend the Member for Northampton (Mr. LABOUCHERE) and to the House for one expression I used on Friday, speaking from memory, which was not quite accurate. I said Sir G. PORTAL would busy himself with respect to the peace and order and well-being of Uganda, and I said he would do it "unofficially." That was certainly not an accurate expression, because for the moment I seem to have overlooked, and did overlook, the fact that as Commissioner he was in possession of powers which would enable him officially to exercise legitimate influence and to exert himself with regard to the peace and good order of the country. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. LABOUCHERE :—I wish to ask the Right Hon. Gentleman whether we are to understand that Sir GERALD PORTAL will not increase in any sort of way Imperial responsibility by any intermixture in the tribal government of Uganda, or by assuming any governmental functions for the Imperial Government until his report is before us.

Mr. BURDETT-COUTTS :—May I put another question to the Right Hon. Gentleman,

in order that we should better and more accurately understand what Sir GERALD PORTAL's powers are in reference to the safety of lives, that are valued in this country, in Uganda? I will put to him a case if I may—If the Mohammedans, who are now overhanging the country, attack the King, is Sir GERALD PORTAL empowered by force of arms to resist that attack? If the two factions attack each other, is Sir GERALD PORTAL empowered by force of arms to intervene to maintain peace?

Mr. GLADSTONE :—In answer to the two questions that have been put to me, I must say in regard to that put by my Hon. Friend, that, in my opinion, I took the safest and wisest course in reading to the House fully and amply the documents that are really authoritative—the documents which will be for the guidance of Sir GERALD PORTAL in the important function that he has in Uganda. Any opinion of mine in regard to these documents is evidently an opinion given in this country and not within hearing of Sir GERALD PORTAL, who is two or three months off, if I am to define the distance by time, and, consequently, is an opinion only. As I have said, our object and desire undoubtedly is, as appears from the documents, to ask Sir GERALD PORTAL to report on matters of the utmost importance. We desire him to approach that question with a perfectly free discretion, and therefore there ought not to be intercepted any intermediate engagement of any sort. With regard to the question of the Hon. Member opposite, the Hon. Member raises a supposititious case, which may or may not come under the consideration of Sir GERALD PORTAL. If it does come under his consideration, Sir GERALD PORTAL will have all the local knowledge, all the information, and all the advice of those around him, in order to enable him to form a judgment upon it. The Hon. Member asks me to form a judgment upon that question, and give it to him now in the House of Commons. I must say I am not prepared to undertake that office. (Cheers.)

Sir GEORGE BADEN-POWELL :—I wish to ask whether, in the opinion of the Government, Sir GERALD PORTAL has a sufficient force with him to carry out, if necessary, his powers as Her Majesty's High Commissioner in East Africa.

Mr. GLADSTONE :—We are of opinion that the force Sir GERALD PORTAL has with him is amply sufficient for the purpose for which he has gone out.

Mr. BALFOUR :—I have no reason to complain of the general statement of the Right Hon. Gentleman. (Nationalist cries of "Question.") I want to put a question, which will not be put in a controversial tone. The Right Hon. Gentleman has stated that very full powers have been given to Sir GERALD PORTAL; and that included in these powers are powers to make arrangements in the country after he himself shall have left. I would ask the Right Hon. Gentleman whether, as he has given such full instructions to Sir GERALD PORTAL during the time he is to be there, it would not be well, if it were possible, to suggest to him specifically that he should have in view the making of those arrangements which he is empowered to make?

Mr. GLADSTONE :—I make no complaint whatever of the tone and terms in which the Right Hon. Gentleman has put his question; I think it is a very fair question. But I own, if he puts it to me, my opinion is that it would be safer for us, standing as we do at the distance at which we find ourselves, to leave that matter in the discretion of Sir GERALD PORTAL, who is aware of the objects that we have in view, rather than to send him instructions which, however carefully framed, might under possible circumstances be found to limit his discretion, and therefore to interfere with the objects in view. (Ministerial cheers.)

On the resumption of the Debate on the Address on the same evening, a long

discussion ensued with respect to Uganda, in which Sir JOHN KENNAWAY, Mr. BURDETT-COUTTS, and other speakers, entered fully into the various questions connected with the action of the Government.

### THE SLAVE-TRADE.

*February 27th.*

Sir C. DILKE asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether (1) by the existing Anglo-Malagasy Treaty we had the right of searching any Malagasy or Arab vessels suspected of being engaged in the Slave-trade in the waters of Madagascar, and of dealing with such vessels and their crews as though engaged in piratical undertakings; (2) whether there had been a distribution of French flags to Malagasy and Arab dhows on the coast of Madagascar; (3) whether Her Majesty's Government had lately given orders to the officers of the British Navy to in no way concern themselves with exercising a police control over dhows in the territorial waters of Madagascar; (4) whether an indemnity had been granted to the owners of dhows flying the French flag searched for Slaves in Madagascar waters by the British gunboat *Redbreast*; (5) out of what fund that indemnity had been granted, and whether there would be an opportunity of discussing the matter on the Supplementary Estimates.

Sir E. GREY:—The answer to (1) is that we had powers of search under the Treaty, but under Article 96 of the Brussels Act all stipulations of Conventions concluded previous to the Act which are inconsistent with it were repealed. By the Declaration of August 5, 1890, Great Britain recognised the Protectorate of France over Madagascar, with its consequences. The obligations of the Brussels Act are imposed alike on Powers exercising Sovereignty or Protectorate. Great Britain and all the other signatory Powers have recognised that France undertakes the obligations of a Protectorate as regards Madagascar, inasmuch as the formal engagement of the French Plenipotentiary to apply, as necessity should arise, the provisions of Articles 30 and 41 to Madagascar was recorded, without objection, in a protocol annexed to the Act. The Protectorate over the island includes the territorial waters. (2) We have no knowledge of any distribution of flags. (3) The instructions framed and issued under the late Government to Naval officers since the ratification of the Act inform them that they have now no power to search vessels in the territorial waters of Madagascar. (4 and 5) No indemnity was granted by Her Majesty's Government, but Admiral KENNEDY spontaneously, and of his own hand, paid £10 to the owners of two dhows which were seized under a misapprehension by the *Redbreast* before the instructions were received.

### The Khedive and the Slave-Trade.

*From "THE TIMES."*

CAIRO, February 27.

LORD CROMER to-day presented to the Khedive Messrs. CHARLES and JOSEPH ALLEN, representing the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY. His Highness expressed his own view as strongly in favour of the action of the Powers at the Brussels Conference for suppressing the Slave-trade, and his satisfaction at its cessation in Egypt. He was interested in hearing the success of the Society's work during over half a century, and sympathized with its efforts on behalf of freedom in Uganda, and elsewhere.—*Our Correspondent.*



### Slave-Raiding in Nyassaland.

PROFESSOR T. M. LINDSEY sends the following information to the *Westminster Gazette* of the 25th February :—

"The last mail has brought ill news from the north end of Lake Nyassa. The fighting Arab Slave-raider M'LOZE, who caused the war at Karongas some years ago, who, ever since Commissioner JOHNSTON's appointment, has been actively plotting a confederation of Arab Slave-dealers against the British influence, and whose reported death was deemed the surest prospect of a peaceful settlement, has re-appeared. Dr. KERR CROSS writing (November 21st, 1892) from N'geronge, at the north end of Lake Nyassa, says :— 'M'LOZE has been at Nsenge, a country ten days' journey from here, since March last, engaged in avenging a brother's death and in capturing Slaves. He suffered reverses, was captured, but was ransomed. At one time it was reported that he had been killed, and the news caused general rejoicing all over the country. This rumour was untrue, for, three weeks ago (in the beginning of November, 1892), M'LOZE returned to M'pata, his own country, with great rejoicings and a vast retinue of captives. His presence keeps the whole district in a chronic state of excitement. His people are constantly coming to the North End villages in search of food, sometimes buying it, frequently extorting it by threats.

" 'Then four days ago we heard that a war party of Megoni (Zulus who inhabit the hills on the west side of Lake Nyassa) had raided the Wankonde village of Kayune, seven hours distant from us. The village is on the lake shore, and lies hidden in groves of bananas, without wall or stockade. The Megoni quietly surrounded it at night. A band entered the village, and a warrior was stationed at the door of every house, who speared the men and boys when they rushed out, and then bound the women with cords. In the morning it was found that the whole male population, save a few who managed to escape, had been butchered, and about 200 women were captured and bound. Karongas, the African Lake Company's station, is three and a half hours distant. The three white men there at once started with a party of 100 men, chiefly Atonga, Mr. FINLAY at the head of it, to help the poor creatures. They reached the village, attacked the Megoni, and forced them to retire without their captives. But natives report that the Megoni, when they found that they could not carry off their captives, began to spear the poor, helpless, tied women, who shrieked and lay writhing on the ground. It is heartrending to see the poor creatures appealing to us whites, and through us to enlightened Europe.' "

#### ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

The mail brings horrible news, up to the 8th December last, from the north end of Lake Nyassa, in British Central Africa. The Arab chief of Mpata, MLOZE, who was reported dead, had been raiding and capturing Slaves. The Angoni (Zulus) swooped down on the innocent Wanrondè, and in the darkness of a moonless night swept the populous village of Kayune out of existence. The captives, consisting of 300 women and girls, were tied together, and cooped up like sheep, while the warriors feasted on the food and drink. When the news reached the African Lakes Company's fort of Karonga, three hours distant, two of the Scots workmen organised a rescue party. The surprised Angoni, unable to escape with both the women and the booty, began to spear the crowd of helpless victims, and were driven off after no little butchery. On 24th November, Dr. CROSS, the Livingstonia medical missionary, reached the place to tend the wounded and dying. All the survivors had fled to the reeds on the lake shore, where they were starving. The list of the dead consists of twenty-nine men, about one hundred women, thirty-two girls, and sixteen boys ; while the Angoni raiders lost thirty dead, and carried off their wounded.

## The Slave-Trade in Central Africa.

AFTER a long period of anxiety and fears for the safety of the Anti-Slavery Expeditions which were despatched from Brussels to Central Africa by the Belgian Anti-Slavery Society, telegrams and letters have recently been received announcing the safety of the expeditions.

A Reuter's telegram, dated Brussels, 26th February, states :—

The Administration of the Congo State to-day received a telegram announcing that Commandant DHANIS has had an engagement on the Lomasie with a large force of Arabs commanded by SEFU, son of TIPPOO TIB. The Arabs were utterly defeated, the whites making over 500 prisoners, including five chiefs, and capturing 600 guns. The report that Commandant DHANIS's expedition had been annihilated by the Arabs is thus proved to have been unfounded. The unfavourable rumours regarding the JACQUES and DELCOMMUNE Expeditions are equally disposed. Captain DELCOMMUNE and his companions have arrived safe and well at Leopoldville.

Two letters, dated respectively October 20 and 23, have just been received from Captain JACQUES. One is addressed to his mother, and the other to the Anti-Slavery Society. The explorer, writing from Albert Island, Lake Tanganyika, says that he is in good health, and has completed the erection of a substantial and extensive station. At the same time he expresses his hope that the Congo authorities will not deceive themselves as to his conflict with the Arabs. He complains bitterly of those explorers who attempt to excuse the Arabs, the latter, in spite of the Brussels Act, being well supplied with guns and powder throughout Africa. He adds that the Arabs regard his expedition as a declaration of war, and are very excited, being determined at all hazards to prevent the suppression of the Slave-trade by the whites. Captain JACQUES says, however, that he is compelled to try and temporise with them, owing to the small force at his disposal. The success of the Anti-Slavery crusade depends, in his opinion, upon the dispatch of cannon, and he strongly urges that these should be sent without delay.

Lieutenant DUVIVIER, second in command to Lieutenant LONG, commander of the JACQUES Relief Expedition, left Tabora on November 3 with a small force and 150 porters for Albert Island. It is expected that Captain JACQUES will be able to hold out until the reinforcements arrive, as he says that he has enough small firearms, and does not speak of any scarcity of food.

In the course of recent operations against the Arabs, M. LIPPENS, formerly Resident at Kasongo, and his lieutenant, M. de BRUYN, were killed. Lieutenant CHALTIN, while returning from an exploring expedition on the Aruwimi, had a hot engagement with a body of Arabs with Slaves, whom he surprised at Yadumba. The Arabs were utterly routed, and fled in great disorder, leaving their arms and ammunition on the field. The native troops in the service of the Company pursued the enemy and killed a large number. Eighty Slaves, whom the Arabs had been compelled to abandon, received their liberty after the fight. The Slaves, sixty of whom were women, were dying of hunger.

Commenting on the above the *Daily News* says :—

The Belgian officer, Commandant DHANI, has disposed of the rumour of his annihilation by the Arabs by annihilating them. He has given the Slave-traders a good sound beating with considerable loss. They were commanded by TIPPOO TIB's son, who must be continuing the business which his father was understood to have

abandoned. The other Belgian expeditions in Africa are doing well. One of them has arrived safely at Leopoldville, which is within measurable distance of the mouth of the Congo and the West Coast. The other, under Captain JACQUES, when last heard of was in a good position on Lake Tanganyika, and, it was hoped, would be able to hold out until the arrival of the small reinforcement advancing from Tabora, in German East Africa. But Captain JACQUES, in the letter just received from him, though dated four months ago, does not write very cheerfully of his position. He finds that the Arabs are as well supplied as ever with arms and ammunition, in spite of the Brussels Act. Africa is a large earth to stop for foxes of that description. A Brussels Conference is all very well, but its decisions cannot become immediately operative over a territory equivalent to twice the surface of Europe, and a population of 125,000,000 souls. It has brought the Powers into substantial agreement, and that is a great thing. The discussion was wisely limited to the subject in hand. The parties were allowed to differ about all other questions, provided they would agree about Slavery and alcohol. The General Act of the Conference is the Magna Charta of the Anti-Slavery question. It traced Slavery from the coast to the interior in the "localities of its origin," and ordained a sort of police for the roads taken by the Slave caravans. This work was more particularly undertaken by the Belgians of the Congo State, in consideration of a special modification of the original Act of Berlin, by which the State was constituted. Under the modification they were allowed to impose certain duties on the importation of foreign merchandise, in order to cover the cost of operations against the Slave-dealers. Holland made some difficulty about it, but finally signed with the rest. The maximum duty of ten per cent. has not been levied, except on arms and ammunition. The ordinary import duties range only from three to six per cent. After what Captain JACQUES has said it might be expedient to make arms the subject of a special stipulation for a prohibitive duty. Of course African Slavery will not end with the suppression of African Slave-dealing. Inter-tribal Slavery will still remain to be dealt with. The missionaries alone can deal with that. But when the soldiers have dealt with the dealers it will be the beginning of the end.

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### Morocco.

A LECTURE on Morocco has recently been delivered by Mr. DONALD MACKENZIE, at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus.

Mr. MACKENZIE traced the history of the Moors from the earliest times up to the present, and dealt fully with the various abuses which prevailed in Morocco. He strongly advocated the adoption of measures against the Slave-trade, especially in the port towns of Morocco, and warmly supported the policy which, for many years, has been advocated by the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, of substituting mixed tribunals for the system of Consular protection, which has been, and still is, the cause of much injustice and oppression.

The lecture, which was well attended, was listened to with marked attention by the audience.



## A Sahara Slave Market.

THE 2nd of July was the third monthly sale at the Slave mart since our arrival in Wargla, and, led by curiosity, I went to the Beni-Sissine quarter, where the haggling for human flesh takes place, says a correspondent of the *Inter-Ocean*. This month is the middle of the dull season, when all traffic is stopped, and very little labour can be done. The deadly heat which prevails during the forty canicular days causes all travellers and traders to shun the oases, for fear of the epidemic fever springing from the dry marshes, until about the end of September, when the nomads re-enter the Sahara with abundance of cattle and grain, and the Mozabites renew their bartering traffic between the oases and the north.

During that period the *shihili*, that intensely dry southern wind, drives everyone to the darkest corner of his house or into the deepest shade of his garden. Work is not to be thought of, and the Slave cannot humanely be compelled to work when he is as much affected as the master. But though the Slave be of little use to his owner for that time, his stomach claims a daily contribution to feed the vital flame until more favourable weather permits him to be more useful to his master. Meanwhile, no communication being held with the exterior, the oases are left to their own resources, and families have to subsist upon provisions laid aside in the spring, consisting mainly of dry meat (*kelya*), dates, and barley. Those who, through lack of financial means or want of provision, fall short in their calculation for subsistence to the end of the season, are reduced to suffering, or forced to part with some of their property, should a buyer be found, who, in this case, would naturally take advantage of their necessity.

The property most willingly parted with under those circumstances is, of course, the most difficult to be sold; the Slaves, who consume their share, while they produce little, owing to which they are sometimes bargained for at trivial value.

Clad in my Arabian costume, I entered the courtyard of the Slave market at 8.30 o'clock in the morning; the usual time being from seven to ten o'clock. Bargainers and sellers were at hand, but little animation was to be observed. Eleven Slaves were seen squatting down close to the ground; seven women in long, blue garbs, barefooted, and with naked arms. The four men were clad in Turkish pantaloons falling to the calves, and short, sleeveless gandouras, leaving all limbs bare.

The building was a large and old palace, much impaired by time, and crumbling down like an abandoned house. That was formerly the residence of the Sultan of Wargla, which at the overthrow of that sovereignty passed into the hands of a sheik. The latter having in turn emigrated during the last revolution in the city, the palace was appropriated for public use.

My attention was first called to a group of two old persons, man and woman, he decrepit by age, and, to all appearances, by physical suffering; she, an old negress, gray-haired, partly bald, shrivelled, bent, worn-out; with mouth wide open, her stretched features, and her skin hanging in deep wrinkles under her chin and along her arms, she appeared a *centenaire*. The pair, though probably of about the same age, did not rank in grade, for she was his bond-woman. A bargainer, impelled by curiosity rather than by a mind to purchase her, approached them, and asked the man for how much the woman was to be sold.

"A woman well experienced in work, for your service, sidi, for twelve souros (dollars)," was the answer. And, as the bargainer showed no wish to buy, he went on, "For ten, sidi!"

And as he saw the bargainer going away without honouring him with an answer, he added hastily, "For eight, sidi! For six!"

This reduction, however, offered no temptation, as he did not turn back. I then heard a quarrel between two men over the ownership of a young negro, whom each of them claimed for his own, and whom each of them pulled back and forth to wrench him from each other.

Seeing, finally, among the spectators a tall man of proud bearing, they appealed to him to arbitrate the case, one explaining that he had owned the Slave for some two months, when he had escaped, and the other claimed to have found him almost dead from wounds received through ill-treatment of his former master and had cared for him, and consequently claimed ownership. The arbitrator made each of the contestants take an oath to abide by his decision, and then decided that the Slave should choose his own master. The Slave promptly chose his last owner.

The prices in general were low, and very few transactions were going on. A man about forty years old was sold for 28 dollars who would have commanded 60 dollars three months later. A woman about thirty years of age was bargained for at 22 dollars whose regular price in the fall would reach over 50 dollars.

As a matter of course the operation of sale included an examination. Thus, as though being mere animals, they were put into one of the doorless rooms near by, open to the sight of all would-be buyers.

Several persons had gathered around the poor old woman already mentioned, and curiously looking at and inquiring about her. I mingled among them to listen. The owner then seemed desperate in his endeavour to sell her at any price. He proposed her for 6 dollars, which sum he successively lowered to 5 dollars, 4 dollars, 3 dollars, and 2 dollars, and yet no buyer was to be found. Ten o'clock was near at hand, the spectators were rapidly decreasing, the market was going to be closed, and this owner, who seemed to be famished and suffering, grew more and more desperate, until finally he ran after one, and grasping his garments said emphatically: "Ya sidi. Yours for 1 dollar."

Even for this trivial amount he was refused the sale, people thinking that she possibly would not live till the fall. No better opportunity could be found to accomplish an act of humanity, and I thought to sacrifice that 1 dollar to redeem the old woman from bondage, that she might enjoy liberty and the respect due to her age in the last days of her life. Thus I gave a 5-franc piece to the despondent old man and bade the old negress to follow me. When we were out of the building I told her that she was free, and might go wherever she wished and work for whoever she liked. She gazed at me as if not understanding, and responded not. Then I took the direction of our encampment, no longer thinking of her.

After a while I looked back and saw her a few steps from me; being barefooted, her step was hardly audible. Thinking that she had to go in the same direction that I followed, I continued walking on unmindfully. After crossing several streets I still found her behind me, when I turned back and asked her whether she had understood me, to which she answered: "I did, but where shall I go? I shall die of hunger if you don't take me."

"Cannot you go to work as a free woman for some one?"

"No one will accept me in this condition, and I have not eaten anything since yesterday noon."

Yielding to the voice of pity, I took her with me to the camp.

"How old are you?" I asked of her.

"I do not know," she replied.

"Can you not tell about how old?"

"I think about seventy."

Since her arrival she had been looking strangely at my companions; their peculiar garbs that she had never seen before, and our foreign language made her understand that we were foreign people. Thereupon a feeling of anxiety overtook her, and at last she ventured to ask whether we were not Christians. Receiving an affirmative answer, she astonished us with this exclamation: "I think you will find I am too tough to be eaten!"

Upon asking her the reason for this strange utterance she said she had heard many a time that the Christians living farther north used to eat the Musselmen. I heard subsequently that the Slave owners often say to their bond people that the Christians are especially fond of the negro's flesh, so as to remove from their minds all ideas of escaping to Algeria. I endeavoured to convince her of the falsity of such monstrosity, telling her she was at liberty to go away; but, trusting that she would be found too tough to be eaten, she begged permission to stay with us, saying that she would by all means repay us for her board by being useful to the best of her ability. We then decided to keep her as our washer-woman during our sojourn in the city.

SHUMA, such was her name, was soon accustomed to us and our nomadic life, and to show her gratitude to me she would come, when she saw me writing, to drive away the flies from me, swarms of which were constantly hovering over us, causing utter annoyance.

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### A Story from the African West Coast.

THE British and African Royal Mail steamer *Roquelle*, which has arrived at Liverpool, left Brass on the 5th ult., at which time Chief KALANGI had been tried by the British Acting Consul-General, Mr. MOORE, for an attack which his followers made on a party of traders, who were natives from one of the interior creeks, and were passing the town of Kalangi when attacked and robbed. The assailants used spears, matchets, and pointed wooden staves, which in several instances made dreadful wounds. The injured arrived at the factory of Mr. TOWNSHEND, who, with the aid of the river doctor, dressed the wounds. On the matter being reported to the Acting Consul-General, he, with fifty soldiers, went to Brass and summoned KALANGI to appear for trial. The chief came down in his war canoe, and accompanied by a number of other chiefs. Altogether there would be over three hundred men, all armed, and in each of the canoes was a small gun. The chief in his plea set up a most ingenious defence. He said the chief of the men he attacked owed his grandfather—many years ago—£10. Had he paid his grandfather, the latter could have bought quite a number of Slaves—Slaves that would cost at the present day about £980, which latter amount, therefore, the said chief owed KALANGI as his grandfather's representative. The Consul spoke to the chief of the absurdity of the claim and of the criminality of his action, and ordered him to return the goods stolen within a certain time. On this understanding he was allowed to leave. To add to the ludicrousness of the affair, KALANGI, before he left, reminded the Acting Consul-General of the festive season (Christmas), and asked him what he intended to "dash" him—that is, present him—with. The Consul, it is said, gave the men some beef and pork, with which they returned to their towns, and rejoicing was general there for some time afterwards.—*Westminster Gazette*.



### The Slave-Trade under the Turkish Flag.

WE lay before our readers a lengthy correspondence upon a subject which has come before the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY on several occasions during a long course of years. The questions involved are not easy of solution, but we feel sure that no European nation, which is a party to the Act of Brussels and to other Treaty engagements, would willingly allow its flag to be used to cover the traffic in Slaves from Africa. We trust that Her Majesty's Government will be able to negotiate with that of Turkey some arrangement which will prevent any infraction of the Treaty engagements of the Ottoman Porte by its subjects. For obvious reasons names are omitted, although supplied to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

(No. 1.)

(TRANSLATION.)

ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, DIRECTIVE COUNCIL OF ITALY.

*November, 1892.*

SIR AND DEAR COLLEAGUE,—We have the honour to send you the present communication with the object of calling your close attention to the importance of the facts which we are about to expose, and which constitute a grave and constant violation of the Anti-Slavery Conference of Brussels. And since it is one of the objects of our movement to watch over the carrying out of Anti-Slavery laws, and to arouse public opinion as well as to engage the attention of the Governments against all those who infringe the conventions agreed to against the Slave-trade, we are strongly convinced that in addressing to you this Circular we shall not have appealed in vain to the sentiments of fraternity which bind us together.

All the reports which we have received from our agents for a year past inform us that vessels, having on board Slaves, are continually setting out from the coast of Tripoli; but what is graver still, even the vessels of the \* \* \* engage in this infamous traffic, so that we are able to affirm that scarcely a single one of these vessels leaves Tripoli without Slaves on board.

Gialo and Aujila are, so to say, the centres of that abominable commerce in Tripoli. It is in those places that the inhabitants instruct the negroes, teaching them a little Arabic and the Koran, and excite the Mussulman fanaticism and hatred against the Christians. After some years the inhabitants sell them to the traders on the coast.

The Governor of Gialo, not being under European influence, and knowing that the Slave-trade is prohibited, after having selected some of the Slaves for his own use and as presents for his friends in Tripoli and Constantinople,

permits the sale on condition that the sellers pay 2 Thalers per head, or in default the Slaves (*marchandise*) are confiscated.

Matters having been thus arranged, the Slave merchants are free. They come to the coast and they negotiate with the officers of the Turkish ships, who agree to embark the poor negroes on condition that they are brought on board, which is done during the night, a little before the departure of the vessel. They are thus transported to their place of destination.

Then, in order to conceal this contraband trade, and with the fear lest the Consular authorities at the ports at which the vessel should touch should prevent it, and also to render useless all verifications of the crew and passengers, which, according to Article 66 of the Conference of Brussels, should be done, they do not hesitate to provide the negroes with letters of freedom which the Turkish *employés* supply to the merchants for a small sum (*interet*).

Time after time our agents at the intermediate ports have verified the fact, and have satisfied themselves that Slaves were on board some of the Turkish vessels; but their protests have been ineffectual in the face of the letters of freedom, established by Article 63 for the protection of the liberated Slaves, and which the malice of the merchants has turned into a legitimate method for legalising their contraband traffic.

A late proof of the fashion in which the Turkish authorities of Bengazi deliver the letters of freedom we have had in the following fact.

On the 6th September, the Turkish steamer *Negid* arrived at the port of Canea. Our agent there discovered three women Slaves, embarked at Bengasi, one of whom was hidden in the cabin of the commander of the vessel. The Turkish police refused to free them on account of the letters of freedom with which the Slaves were provided. His efforts were in vain, even though he had them conducted to the chief of the police, for the commander protested against the affirmations of our agent, who, however, by an energetic move, seized the three women and conducted them to the English Consulate. There, indeed, they declared that they were not free, and that they desired, absolutely, to be sent back to their own country. In spite of all, it was necessary to leave them at Canea, so that they should ultimately return to their country at our expense.

That is the way, Sir, in which, in spite of the provisions of the Brussels Conference and the orders of His Majesty the Sultan thousands of unfortunate Slaves depart from Tripoli to the East, and with the connivance of the Ottoman authorities they are passed with impunity under the eyes of the European officials.

In calling your attention to such a state of affairs, we beg of you to be so good as to unite with us in the task of bringing this evil to an end.

And, with this object in view, we suggest that you should act, in the manner which you deem best, upon your Government, in order that it may

interest itself actively with His Majesty the Sultan, so that he may be induced to determine :—

(1) To give severe and peremptory orders to his officers in Tripoli, and, above all, to those at Benghazi and Derna, with the view of punishing the Slave merchants, and of preventing the caravans which set out for the interior of the country from introducing Slaves on their return.

(2) To prohibit Turkish vessels from embarking Slaves; to scrupulously adhere to Article 36 of the Conference with respect to the embarkation of negroes, and to punish severely the guilty.

(3) To concede that the letters of freedom should be given only with the legalisation of some European Consulate.

We regret that the International Maritime Bureau of Zanzibar has not yet been constituted according to the provisions of Article 74 and the following Articles of the Conference of Brussels; but we hope, however, that the simultaneous measures taken in their respective countries by all the Anti-Slavery Societies, will result in a scrupulous surveillance of the ports of Tripoli, and will bring to an end, or at any rate diminish, the traffic in Slaves, for it has been established that in places where (for example, the City of Tripoli) the Turkish authorities observe the Anti-Slavery laws and orders of the Sultan, the Slave-trade has almost disappeared.

In asking your concurrence in the action herein indicated, we do not mean to exclude any other means that your honourable Anti-Slavery Council may deem opportune for obtaining the result which we desire, and we shall be very pleased if you will be good enough to assist us by your wise counsel.

Agreez, &c., &c., &c.,

The President General,

(Signed) CAMILLO ROSPIGLIOSO.

The Advising Secretary,

(Signed) A. SIMONETTI.

(No. 2.)

(Telegraphic.)

ROME, *December 1st*, 1892.

"Mr. ALLEN, Anti-Slavery Society, London.—Apprenons Navire Turc  
\* \* \* passage Malte, à bord six Esclaves.—SIMONETTI."

(No. 3.)

ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY,

ROME, *2nd December*, 1892.

DEAR SIR AND COLLEAGUE,—We have learnt that the Ottoman vessel,  
\* \* \* having on board six women Slaves, was about to touch at Malta, and we hastened to send you the telegraphic despatch which you received yesterday. Since the vessel was about to call at an English port, we



considered that it was for your Society to take the initiative, and that our duty was to inform you of the facts. Besides, we could not provide better for the lot of these poor women than by placing the matter in the hands of your indefatigable Society.

We know by experience that success would not have been easy, for the letters of freedom, to which we have had the honour of calling your attention in our circular, conceal this kind of contraband traffic, whilst the terrified negroes do not always speak the truth ; but we beg of you to let us know if you were in time, and if you were successful in obtaining the liberation of the six women.

Accept, Monsieur, etc., etc.,

Your very devoted,

A. SIMONETTI,

*Advising Secretary.*

MR. C. H. ALLEN.

(No. 4.)

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY,

OFFICE : 55, NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.,

*December 2nd, 1892.*

SIR,—This Society has received the telegram, of which the following is a copy, from M. SIMONETTI, the Secretary to the Italian Anti-Slavery Society at Rome :—

“ Apprenons Navire Turc, \* \* \* passage Malte, à bord six  
“ Esclaves.”

I am directed by my Committee to request that you will bring this information to the knowledge of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and request his Lordship to take such immediate action as he may deem best calculated to ensure the release of the Slaves in question.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient, humble servant,

J. EASTOE TEALL,

*Assistant Secretary.*

THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

(No. 5.)

*December 2nd, 1892.*

THE UNDER-SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter of to-day, I beg to inform you that I have received the following latest information with respect to the Turkish steamer, \* \* \* from Lloyd's :—

“ Tripoli, Nov. 28, 9.30 a.m.—Turkish steamer, \* \* \* got  
“ ashore in leaving port, but came off and proceeded.”

I have the honour, etc.,

J. EASTOE TEALL,

*Assistant Secretary.*

(No. 6.)

FOREIGN OFFICE,

*December 12th, 1892.*

SIR,—With reference to your letters of the 2nd and 3rd instant, in regard to the reported conveyance of Slaves from Tripoli to Malta, on board the Turkish steamer \* \* \* I am directed by the EARL OF ROSEBERY to state, for the information of your Committee, that instructions were at once sent by telegraph to the Governor of Malta, requesting him to make inquiries and to take such steps as should be proper.

A reply has now been received by telegraph, reporting that the steamer in question arrived at Malta on the 30th ultimo, and left for Bengazi on the 1st instant; that, in accordance with standing orders, the persons who might have been supposed to be Slaves were questioned, but that none such appeared to be on board; that a passenger named ALI BEY had disembarked and gone to a hotel, accompanied by three women and a boy, who asserted that they were free, and that it was their intention to remain with ALI BEY.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

(Signed) P. W. CURRIE.

(No. 7.)

(Telegraphic.)

*"LONDON, December 14th, 1892.**"To SIMONETTI, Anti-Slavery Society, Rome.*

*"Esclaves refusent liberté. Vous recevrez lettre envoyée ce jour."*—  
TEALL.

(No. 8.)

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY,

55, NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.,

*14th December, 1892.*

DEAR SIR,—I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your circular-letter, telegram, and your letter with respect to the \* \* \* steamer, and I have to thank you for calling the attention of this Society to this branch of the Slave-Trade.

Immediately on receiving your telegram I laid it before the Committee of this Society, who without delay desired me to request the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to take steps to secure the freedom of the Slaves.

Enclosed I beg to hand you copy of a despatch which has just been received from the Foreign Office,\* by which you will see that your fears were only too well founded, and that the supposed Slaves, when offered their

\* No. 6.

liberty, declared that they were free persons, and elected to remain with the persons bringing them.

Accept, dear Sir, the earnest sympathy of the Society which I represent in the great work in which you are engaged, and

Believe me,

Your faithful servant,

J. EASTOE TEALL,

*Assistant Secretary.*

SIGNOR SIMONETTI,

SOCIETA ANTI-SCHIAVISTA, ROME.

(No. 9.)

FOREIGN OFFICE, *December 20th*, 1892.

SIR,—With reference to my letter of the 12th instant, in regard to the reported conveyance of Slaves from Tripoli to Malta, on board the Turkish steamer \* \* \* I am directed by the EARL OF ROSEBURY to transmit herewith, for the information of your Society, copy of a despatch from the Governor of Malta, reporting at length his action in the matter.

I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

T. V. LISTER.

THE SECRETARY BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

(Enclosure 1 in No. 9.)

(MALTA, No. 207.)

PALACE VALETTA, *6th December*, 1892.

MY LORD,—With reference to your Lordship's telegram of the 3rd instant, and to my reply thereto of yesterday, I have the honour to forward a copy of a report from Senior Assistant Superintendent Marine Police, Mr. STIVALA, containing the result of the enquiry made in accordance with standing orders on the subject of the alleged existence of six Slaves on board the steamer \* \* \*

I have, etc.,

(Signed) H. A. SMYTH,

Governor.

LORD RIPON, etc., etc., etc.

(Enclosure No. 2 in No. 9.)

CUSTOMS HOUSE, MARINE POLICE OFFICE,

*4th December*, 1892.

SIR,—With reference to report about Slaves who arrived by the Ottoman s.s. \* \* \* I have the honour to report that on the 30th ulto., at 2 a.m., the above-mentioned steamer arrived in the Grand Harbour Extension from Tripoli. As she had fifty-one passengers on board, most of whom were Arabs, she was kept in quarantine till daylight, when the Asst. O.M.O., Dr. F. BORG, and the Boarding Officer, Captain A. GAFFIERO, repaired on board. The former made a careful inspection of the whole crew and passengers, amongst whom there were ALI BEY, accompanied by three women and a boy, and the latter, who is conversant with the Arabic language, asked the women and the boy whether they were Slaves or not.



They answered in the negative, and stated that they were quite willing to remain with their master ALI BEY.

I beg further to report that this day I personally communicated with the three women and boy above referred to, who are staying with ALI BEY at the Constantinople Hotel, St. Ursola, Valetta. Two of the women stated that they were the wife and daughter of the said ALI BEY, and the other woman and boy that they were his servants, and they all expressed a desire to remain with him, being, as they said, quite free.

The other passengers were soldiers and Arab travellers, about whom no suspicion can be entertained of being Slaves.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) S. STIVALA, S.A.S.

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(No. 10.)

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY,

55, New Broad Street, *February 2nd*, 1893.

TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., HER MAJESTY'S  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

MY LORD,—I am directed by the Committee of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY to acknowledge the receipt of Sir T. V. LISTER'S letter of the 20th December, covering copies of a despatch and its enclosures from the Governor of Malta, reporting the result of the inquiries instituted by his Excellency on the subject of the alleged conveyance of Slaves from Tripoli to Malta on board the Turkish steamer \* \* \*

Whilst thanking your Lordship for your prompt action in this matter, I am at the same time to transmit, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, the accompanying copy of a letter received by my Committee from the Italian Anti-Slavery Society; and I am to call your Lordship's attention to the statements contained in this letter, to the effect that all the reports received from the agents of the Italian Anti-Slavery Society show that vessels having Slaves on board are continually setting out from the coast of Tripoli, and that even the vessels of the \* \* \* engage in this infamous traffic in Slaves. These reports, I am to state, are confirmatory of the intelligence which has reached the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY for years past, and which, as the archives of the Foreign Office will show, have led to their addressing representations to Her Majesty's Government, with the view to effective action being taken for the repression of this traffic. Doubtless there may be difficulties in the way of its repression, more particularly in cases where the individuals embarked deny that they are Slaves, and assert that they are servants accompanying their masters of their own free will; but in instances where it has been possible to trace these individuals upon their arrival at their destination in Turkish ports, it has been proved that they were Slaves, and that they have been dealt with as such by their masters.

Whatever may be alleged to the contrary by the Turkish Authorities, or by parties interested in the traffic, it is too notorious that the clandestine transport of raw Slaves between Tripoli and Constantinople, and other Turkish ports in the Levant, does exist to a considerable extent, and my Committee feel assured that no exertions on the part of Her Majesty's Government will be wanting to ensure its repression.

The Committee of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY would submit that the engagements contracted by those countries which were parties to the Brussels Conference bind them equally with Her Majesty's Government to take action when, in a case like the one under discussion, it can be shown that the Slave-trade is carried on in European waters; and I am therefore to suggest whether representations might not with advantage be addressed to the Powers represented at the Conference at Brussels, with the view to a joint protest being presented to the Government of the Porte against the Slave traffic which is being carried on under the Turkish flag.

I am further directed to suggest that the attention of Her Majesty's Consular Officers on the Southern Coast of the Mediterranean should be called to this matter, and that they should be directed to keep a strict watch, as far as they can properly do so, on the embarkation of passengers on board Turkish ships, and particularly on board vessels of the \* \* \* and that in the cases of vessels destined to touch at Malta, they should report at once to the Governor of that island where there may be any suspicion that such vessels are carrying Slaves.

In conclusion the Committee desire me to remind your Lordship that no papers have been issued of late which would throw any light upon a point which is of much importance, viz., the traffic in Slaves from the Soudan into Tripoli *via* Ghadames, which is the usual route of entry, and where, no doubt, a considerable number are still introduced.

By Order of the Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's obedient, humble servant,

J. EASTOE TEALL,

*Assistant Secretary.*

(No. 11.)

FOREIGN OFFICE, *February 21st, 1893.*

SIR,—I am directed by the EARL OF ROSEBURY to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, enclosing copy of a communication from the Italian Anti-Slavery Society with regard to the traffic in Slaves which is stated to exist between the Coast of Tripoli and Turkish ports.

In reply to the charges made against the Turkish Government of neglecting to take proper steps for the suppression of the alleged abuse, his Lordship desires me to summarise briefly the measures adopted by the Porte.

By a Turkish law of 1889 it was enacted that black Slaves, whose owners have not a certificate showing in what capacity they accompany them, shall be considered free, and shall be furnished with certificates of manumission.

The Correctional Court at Constantinople grants certificates of manumission to all African domestic Slaves who apply either direct or through the medium of Her Majesty's Embassy.

By a Circular of September, 1890, addressed to all Governors-General and Governors of Provinces, the Porte urged on them the necessity of the strictest watchfulness on their part, so as to put a stop to the fraudulent exportation of African Slaves.

Since that time the Porte has furnished the Valis with printed formulæ of manumission certificates, which, under Article III. of the Law of 1889, are granted by the Courts and Authorities to newly-imported African Slaves and exported black domestic servants.

Captains of the Ottoman Steamship Company have also been instructed to refrain from receiving on board their vessels Africans whose certificates of manumission are not legalised by the highest local official—namely, the Governor-General or Governor.

Refuges for the reception of manumitted Slaves have been established by the Porte at Smyrna, Tripoli, and other places, and all manumitted Slaves are given the option of returning to the port whence they were shipped or of going to one of these refuges.

In the concluding paragraph of your letter you ask for information in regard to the traffic in Slaves between the Soudan and the Coast of Tripoli.

In his latest reports the British Consul at Benghazi states that, to the best of his belief, this trade has been entirely suppressed at the port of Tripoli, and he has never reported the existence of such trade at Benghazi. Any Slave-trading that may exist in the interior is too far removed from the districts of Her Majesty's Consuls to enable them to obtain accurate information on the subject.

The Turkish Government have been by no means backward in taking measures for the prevention of the traffic in Africans between Tripoli and other Turkish ports.

In Crete, Mr. BILIOTTI, Her Majesty's Consul, has made very complete and satisfactory arrangements with the Vali. The police search all vessels coming from the Coast of Africa, and direct notice of the presence of Africans on board any steamer is at once given to the Consulate.

Mr. BILIOTTI says: "In a word, his Excellency told me that he would adopt any practicable measure which I would propose with regard to African Slaves."

It has occasionally happened in Crete that Africans have arrived on one of the steamers, provided with manumission certificates, but declaring that they had been embarked against their will. It being evident from this that these certificates were forged, the Judicial Courts have issued fresh manumission papers in each case.

At Malta, all vessels are on arrival at once visited by officials, and their crews and passengers carefully inspected. Should there be any one on board who is suspected of being a Slave, he is interrogated by the officials as to his condition.

In the face of all these measures, taken with a view to the suppression of the Slave-trade, LORD ROSEBURY is of opinion that a general charge of indifference to the obligations of the Porte under the Brussels Act cannot be sustained.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

(Signed) P. W. CURRIE.



## Polynesian Labour in Queensland.

THE following important letter on this question appeared in *The Times* of January 5th. Sir ARTHUR GORDON, who was for several years Her Majesty's High Commissioner in the Pacific, has had more experience than probably any other man living of the evils of the labour traffic, and his opinions are therefore entitled to the serious consideration of all who are interested in the question.

*To the Editor of "THE TIMES."*

SIR,—That the introduction of Polynesian labour into Queensland might, as stated in your leading article of Tuesday last, be "made as advantageous to the servant as to the master," I fully believe; that it "is being made so" I am glad to learn on the testimony of your correspondent and other authorities well entitled to credit. I readily accept their assurances of the well-being of the labourers in Queensland itself. Nor do I entertain any doubt either that there is a very sincere desire on the part of the Queensland authorities to prevent abuses in the recruiting of labour, or that such abuses have, in fact, been very greatly diminished. At the same time, it is not perhaps unnatural that those who remember that at a period when, as it now seems generally admitted, abuses were of very frequent occurrence, the assertion that they were impossible under the regulations then in force was made just as positively as it now is; and that Sir S. GRIFFITH, after careful consideration, arrived at and acted on the conclusion that abuses were so inseparable from the traffic as to admit of no cure by any system of regulation, but could only be terminated by the entire cessation of the traffic itself, should be somewhat slow to follow that gentleman in his sudden conversion to the opinion that a few additions to a system of regulations, already excellent on paper, will suffice to obviate the chance of their recurrence.

But will you permit me to observe that the well-being of coloured labourers in Queensland, or even the absence, at the present time, of abuses in their recruitment, if such is the case, does not affect the position of those who have always deprecated exaggerated denunciations of the labour trade, or comparisons of it with Slavery, which it by no means resembles? Their desire is not to prevent the importation of coloured labour into Queensland, but to provide securities against abuse which shall be effective, and not manifestly inadequate to resist pressure. What they ask is, that the labour required for the Queensland plantations should be obtained (as it is for those of the West Indies and Mauritius) from India; or that, if this be impossible, the supervision of the recruiting of labour should be placed in independent hands, and not in those of the community for whose benefit the trade is conducted.

There are many reasons which seem to render the former the more preferable alternative. That the introduction of Indian coolies into a tropical colony is an advantage to the planter who employs them, to the coolies themselves, and to the over-peopled country from which they are drawn, are facts unquestionable, and, I believe, almost unquestioned. The same can hardly be said of the introduction of what is (erroneously) called Kanaka labour.

Even if the system of recruiting pursued be free from any suspicion of abuse, the drain of a large part of its male population from a South Sea island deranges and ultimately destroys the communal village life on which its prosperity depends. This can perhaps be only fully realised by those who are acquainted with the working of

that elaborate system ; but the evil effects of such withdrawal—which, however faultlessly the labour trade may be conducted, must in no long time end in the extinction of the island population—are practically admitted by the fact that recruiting for labour is strictly forbidden in all islands already brought under the dominion of the British Crown. Sir JAMES GARRICK, in a letter to you, written in answer to one from me, which you did me the honour to insert in *The Times* in May last, lays stress upon the fact that recruiting for labour in New Guinea is made impossible by what he somewhat magniloquently calls the “constitution” of that dependency. By this he means, I suppose, the Letters Patent and Royal Instructions now in force. But their authority will expire in five years, and there will then be no check upon the absolute control of the Queensland Parliament over New Guinea. That the supply of labour from the Polynesian Islands will become smaller as their population dwindles ; that in these circumstances there will be in Queensland a demand for permission to obtain labour from New Guinea ; that the Queensland Government of the day, depending as it must on the popular vote for existence, will be compelled, whether it likes it or not, to acquiesce in that demand ; and that it will be an evil day, both for Queensland and New Guinea, when this is done, it requires no great political foresight to perceive.

It may be said that the importation of Indian coolies will cost more than that of Kanakas. I do not know that the additional expenditure would be a high price to pay to insure the absence of abuses and immunity from even the shadow of reproach. Nor, indeed, do I know that the cost would be materially greater than that which must attend the provision of Polynesian labour, if conducted under real restrictions and minute control.

But, if the employment of Indian labour be indeed impossible, it is keenly felt by many that it is not to the Queensland Government, holding office at the will and pleasure of the Queensland voter, that the supervision of recruiting for labour should be intrusted. Those who entertain this sentiment do not say that the labour trade must be accompanied by abuses, but that it is peculiarly liable to be so, both from the ease with which abuses may be committed and the difficulty which attends their detection and punishment. This will not, I think, be questioned even by the warmest friends of the labour trade. No doubt is cast upon the upright intentions of those now in office in Queensland or those who may succeed them. It is very possible that, for a time, the regulations issued may not be infringed, or that, if infringed, their breach may be punished. But, when the demand for coloured labour in Queensland exceeds the supply easily obtainable from the Pacific Islands (as in a very short time must be the case), public opinion in Queensland will still require the labour necessary for sugar cultivation to be found. Unless the Queenslander is unlike all other men—and I presume he is neither better nor worse than the average Englishman—he will not in such circumstances look too nicely, nor allow the Government which exists by his sufferance to look too nicely, at the mode by which it is obtained.

It is to obviate the possibility of such contingencies that it is urged that, if the supply of coloured labour for Queensland is still to be drawn from the Pacific, the supervision of its recruitment should be placed in the hands of officers of the Imperial Government, to be stationed at various points in the Western Pacific, and before one or other of whom all intending labourers should be brought before starting on their voyage to Queensland.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ASCOT, Dec. 29.

ARTHUR GORDON.

### The late Cardinal Lavigerie.

THE following is a translation of a letter which has been received by the Assistant Secretary of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY from His Grace the BISHOP OF ADRUMETUM, acknowledging the Minute of the Committee on the death of Cardinal LAVIGERIE, which appeared in our last number :—

ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY OF FRANCE,  
11, RUE DU REGARD, PARIS,

January 7, 1893.

M. LE SECRETAIRE,—It is only on my return to-day from Algiers that it is possible for me to acknowledge the receipt of, and thank you for sending, a copy of the Minute by which the English ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY associates itself with the general sorrow which the death of the eminent Cardinal LAVIGERIE has aroused throughout the entire world.

Having scarcely returned to Paris, I look to you to express my thanks, and say how much I am touched with the precious witness of sympathy which your Committee has borne to the memory of the venerated founder of our movement. Permit me to call you as a witness of my profound thankfulness, and to beg of you to act as my interpreter with the President and each Member of the Society.

It is equally pleasant to be able to tell you, under the circumstances, how much the regretted Cardinal loved to recall the welcome—so sympathetic and kind—which was given to him in London, and the valuable support which you have given to his generous and noble enterprise—an enterprise which has led to so happy a result as the memorable act of the Conference at Brussels.

Accept, etc.,

CARMEL BRINCAT, BISHOP OF ADRUMETUM,  
*Director-General.*

### SLAVERY IN MOROCCO.

SLAVERY is one of the institutions of Morocco, and always thrives under the fostering care of Mohammedan law. The Slaves are brought by Slave-dealers from various parts of the Soudan, and re-sold to Moors at the border towns of the Empire. Some are treated kindly by their masters, others with more or less cruelty. If a Moor treats his Slave badly, they have the right of demanding from their masters to be re-sold; but this is seldom done, as the Slave might be in a still worse position under the new master. Many of these poor creatures come to our Medical Mission in Fez, where they receive treatment and hear the Gospel.

Mr. EDWARDS lately, in passing through Morocco city, visited the Slave market. He saw there about a dozen, principally young women and girls, who were being paraded for sale. One or two were quite children, who did not realise their position; but the older ones seemed to feel keenly their degradation. Any person who was inclined to buy, examined these poor creatures as they would in buying a horse. As the auctioneer led them round bids were received, and they were thus sold as an article of merchandise.

There has been no Slavery in Algeria since the French occupation in 1830. It was abolished in Tunis in 1843, mainly through the influence of our Consul-General, Sir THOMAS READE. How long shall it be before Morocco is free from this curse?—*North Africa.*



## The Slave-Trade in Central Africa.

OUR valued contemporary, *Echoes of Service*, publishes a long and interesting though, at times, painful "Diary of Mr. CRAWFORD," a missionary at Garenganze, as well as a letter from Mr. CYRIL BIRD, missionary at Nana Kandundu, from which we make the following extracts. These letters point to the incessant activity of the Slave-trade in the territories of the Congo Free State.

### MR. CRAWFORD'S DIARY.

GARENGANZE, June 25th.

At *Mufunga's*, on the border of the Luba country. During the last fifteen days Mr. THOMPSON and I have been on the march, journeying due north, with the majestic Kundelungu range on our right all the way. Here and there we turned into its valleys to visit the little hamlets generally located there, and the reception we met with all along the route was one of effervescent warmth. Some, it is true, fled on our approach; but they soon returned on finding out who we really were, and no doubt our walking-sticks and water bottles helped in a great measure to disarm suspicions. This is always so wherever we go, and always will be wherever God's servants go in Africa, if they keep their rifles out of sight, and move amongst the people, not with condescension, but with simplicity and friendliness. Travellers may write all sorts of things about Africans, and may find them vastly different from the people we meet with; but the real fact is that the mode in which Africans are approached, and afterwards dealt with, has everything to do with their bearing towards a new comer. If a man moves about with a heavily-armed escort, and carries on all his dealings as it were behind the barrel of a rifle, the result is obvious—the natives will flee, and leave him to starve.

On the sixth day of journeying, after emerging from the Kasanga valley, we entered upon what is getting rarer and rarer in Africa—virgin soil, where the foot of white man has not yet trod. You can imagine with what a joyous step we tread such soil, for great is the privilege of being before the busy self-seekers of this age, with the message of our King.

The tribe amongst which for the most part we have been moving has been the Va-lomotwa, a strangely recluse people, who, in days of peace, live at the foot of the mountain range, having at the same time a connection with it, in the form of little undiscoverable paths, which lead up to caves where they store all their food, and where, too, on the approach of an invader they retreat. The wretched hamlets they build at the bottom of the mountains have a poverty-stricken look, consisting as they do of only one or two grass huts scattered among a few patches of sweet potatoes and manioc. One's first thought is to blame these people for lack of industry, but the real fact is that in past years their life in the plains was so precarious, and fraught with such danger, that now it offers no attractions for them, and to a great extent they are independent of it, save that in some secluded spot they may rear a crop of *mevele*, which is no sooner ripe than it is carried to the mountains.

At Lusengo we found the people had fled up into their "munitions of rocks"; but we were soon on such friendly terms with the one remaining individual there that he, on his own responsibility, sent a shrill call up the mountains, which had the effect of bringing down his friends, who emerged out of the grass in all directions, among them women with babies on their backs, and all carrying something of household furniture—stools, pots, baskets, etc. The meeting which followed was a memorable

one, all the people from far and near having come to listen to the strange things from the strange white men.

Our original destination on this journey was CIFUNTWI's large village, which for years was the late MSIDI's strongest outpost on his north-eastern border. Whether for better or worse, however, since the remarkable *coup d'état* of last year, *Yeke* prestige has been an unknown thing, and, in fact, so completely has the wheel gone round that they who once were the oppressors are now, in a degree, the oppressed. They were, in a manner, the aristocracy of these parts, who dearly loved to wear a wealth of broad calico, and walk with a swaggering gait; but since MSIDI's death the latter has very manifestly disappeared, and in the absence of an abundant exchequer, as formerly, the ample folds of calico have had to be abandoned.

Only six days ago, with deep sorrow, we heard of old CIFUNTWI's murder while we were speeding on our way to visit him. To detail the causes would occupy much space, as African intrigues and quarrels are nearly always very intricate, hardly ever born of a day, but often extending far back, the whole being generally a compound of trivialities. Briefly, since MSIDI's death and the break up of his power, things have swung round to the unpleasant extreme of every man doing pretty much as he likes, and this is explained by the fact that the force at the command of Lieut. LEGAT—a very competent officer—is quite inadequate to govern this large country. Time was when only one man, viz., MSIDI, had a voice in the land. Since his death, however, there has been much petty lording it, or, rather, attempts at doing so. Among others, there are three dangerous marauders on the banks of the Luapula river, who for some years have been living on freebooting. Two are Va-lungwana, named MURUTURUTU and KAFINDO, *employés* of an Arab at Unyanyembe, and the other a Munyamwezi named SHIMBA. These, during MSIDI's lifetime, were held in check in some degree, the last-named having been driven out of the country by MUKANDAVANTU, when he, two years ago, very defiantly proposed to march on the capital. SHIMBA then took refuge on an island in Lake Moero, and now, on hearing of MSIDI's death, he accepted overtures from some Va-lomotwa chiefs to come and help them to kill CIFUNTWI. KAFINDO also sent a war party, and these unitedly surrounded the old man at Malova, the village of his son, whither he had removed on hearing of their intentions. Four war camps were built around him, and after much firing he was compelled to flee. Deserted by all his people, save one little boy, he made his way back to his old village, *en route* to the white men at the Lufoi; but a passage along the road was denied him by the Va-lomotwa, and, following him into his own fields, they cruelly murdered the poor aged man, who, as far as I ever heard, was always their good friend, having no such black record as MSIDI.

We are now on the borders of the Luba country, and only two days north of this the Arab agents, above mentioned, have lately been doing some of the foulest and blackest work possible. Chief after chief has been murdered, their countries devastated, and large gangs of Slaves carried off with everything else that has a market value—and all this, too, in the Congo Free State territory! These Va-lungwana have strongly entrenched themselves on the right bank of the Luapula river, distant from each other only a day's journey. And it is an indisputable fact that MURUTURUTU alone has fifteen once-powerful chiefs completely in subjection, whom he compels to bring him every tusk of ivory, large or small, under penalty of death. The Luba country is his great hunting ground, all over the south-east corner of which he sends his war parties, armed with percussion-cap guns, to carry on their work of devastation and unmerciful vandalism. In the great majority of cases, the resistance offered amounts

to nothing, and in only one instance, so far as I know, a large chief, named CRYOMBO, was able to drive off the invaders with somewhat heavy losses on their part. In these Slave raids it is pretty certain that all the poor old folks, not eligible for the market and unable for the journey, are cruelly murdered. Of those actually taken as Slaves, perhaps about seventy per cent. are women, twenty per cent. boys, and only about ten are men, the scarcity of men being accounted for by the fact that most are either killed off during the attack, or that they make good their escape when they see resistance to be useless. Though all these tribes have a very powerful arrow poison named "bulembe," death from which by tetanus being certain in a few minutes, they undervalue its power, and think a gun, with its loud report, a dreadful weapon. But, as a matter of fact, the damage done by the latter in the hands of natives, amounts to almost *nil*, a gunshot wound being a very trifling thing compared with the slightest scratch from a poisoned arrow.

God grant that soon the poor down-trodden Luba country may be freed from the yoke of the oppressor, and that the dying groans which have for so long a time been ascending into the ears of the LORD OF SABAOth may speedily cease! It is a very simple thing for rulers sitting in conference in Europe to mark off in coloured crayons delimitations of frontiers, etc., and annex by mutual consent vast territories which might easily contain several Europes; but how very different it is when thorough-going administration is in demand, and there is only a handful of soldiers in the country to see it carried out.

We visited CIFUNTWI's old village, built at a beautiful spot near the confluence of the Lufwa and Luisi, both fine streams flowing into the Lufira, a few days' journey off. The once large and crowded village we found burned to the ground. The chief's house, which was sixty feet long, had shared the same fate. Making our exit by the west gate, we passed through large fields of ripe sorghum rapidly going to waste for want of people to garner it. The whole sight was saddening beyond description, as was the thought of the poor old man left to die alone, all his young men having fled like rats from a sinking ship.

*July 1st.*—We are now on the homeward journey, revisiting the places at which we stopped when going northward, and seeking to find out how much was remembered of all they had heard. CIZIBA, a small chief, could remember that God's *Kabinda* (Only Begotten One), JESU, had long ago descended from heaven and "made an end of sin" (this literally, *wa puizia mianda*) before GOD, by paying the price of His own blood. During this journey we have had very much to encourage, and bid us hope that God will soon gather out a people from these tribes for Himself. We are still following the Kundelungu range, which rises on our left to a height of over one thousand feet. The whole is one long stretch of table-land, uniform in height and appearance, as far as we have yet seen. There are three distinct formations of rocks, the base being schist, the middle red sandstone, and the top limestone. All over the top of the range there are many cup-like cavities caused by the action of torrents which rush down into the valleys, and these are declared by the natives to be the footprints of a great giant named *Kara ya Rova*, who passed by that way long years ago. Where he came from and whither bound, the natives don't venture to say, but they stoutly resist any attempt at removing this strange notion out of their heads.

On the journey northwards, in order to avoid a long march round a promontory of the range that would have led us out near the Lufira flat, we climbed the mountain by a very precipitous path, and after an easy march along the top, descended near Lugungivi at a spot where, looking upwards, we wondered how the thing was possible.



Once or twice all the path we had was a tiny ledge of rock overhanging a dark chasm, upon which we could only plant one foot at a time, but even this was more acceptable than the treacherous schist, which, either as a foothold or something to clutch at, was always cruelly deceptive, breaking away in cakes at the slightest touch.

10th.—We are now back again at the Lufoi, where we rest for a week or two, awaiting the appearance of the new moon, when we start on our journey southwards. To our unbounded joy we found that in our absence the mail from Bihé had arrived, bringing with it such glad good news from the old country. If friends only knew what a letter means to us here, they would indeed be less reluctant, or forgetful, in writing a word of cheer.

#### EXTRACTS FROM MR. BIRD'S LETTER.

NANA KANDUNDU, October 14th.

The Bihéans tell us frequently that when their Slaves serve them well they keep them, but if not they are sent to the coast to be sold. Our hearts are also heavy at this time, owing to the presence of so many Slaves. HONJO's camp is full of them. This morning the Arab, FAÛMÉ, left for the west with his sickening train of women and children. This man was mentioned two years ago in *Echoes*. He evidently finds the West Coast trade profitable, as he sticks to it. One most heartrending result of the presence here of such men is, that it is the signal for those who have a case, no matter how long standing, against their friends or neighbours, to seize them at once, and unless an exorbitant fine is paid, to carry them off to the trader's camp to be sold—Lunda *versus* Lunda, Lovale *versus* Lovale; it is a greedy lust for gain, to be satisfied at any cost to others.

We were not a little amused at the renowned HONJO's come-down here. On his journey in he made a great noise about ceasing to pay tribute anywhere, but on his return here the queen was one too many for him. She sent her young men up to his camp with whips to drive away any women who might bring food to sell, and thus cut off his commissariat completely, until he sent down his tribute of cloth like an ordinary mortal. We hear she is not yet satisfied, and is after his ivory and Slaves, so HONJO came to-day to say he could stay no longer, and would start to-morrow, instead of remaining a week, as he had said.

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“Remember them that are in bonds.”

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## FORM OF BEQUEST.

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“I give and bequeath the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid (Free of Legacy Duty), out of such parts of my personal estate as can be lawfully applied for that purpose, unto the Treasurer for the time being of

**The British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society,**  
to be at the disposal of the Committee for the time being of the said Society.”

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